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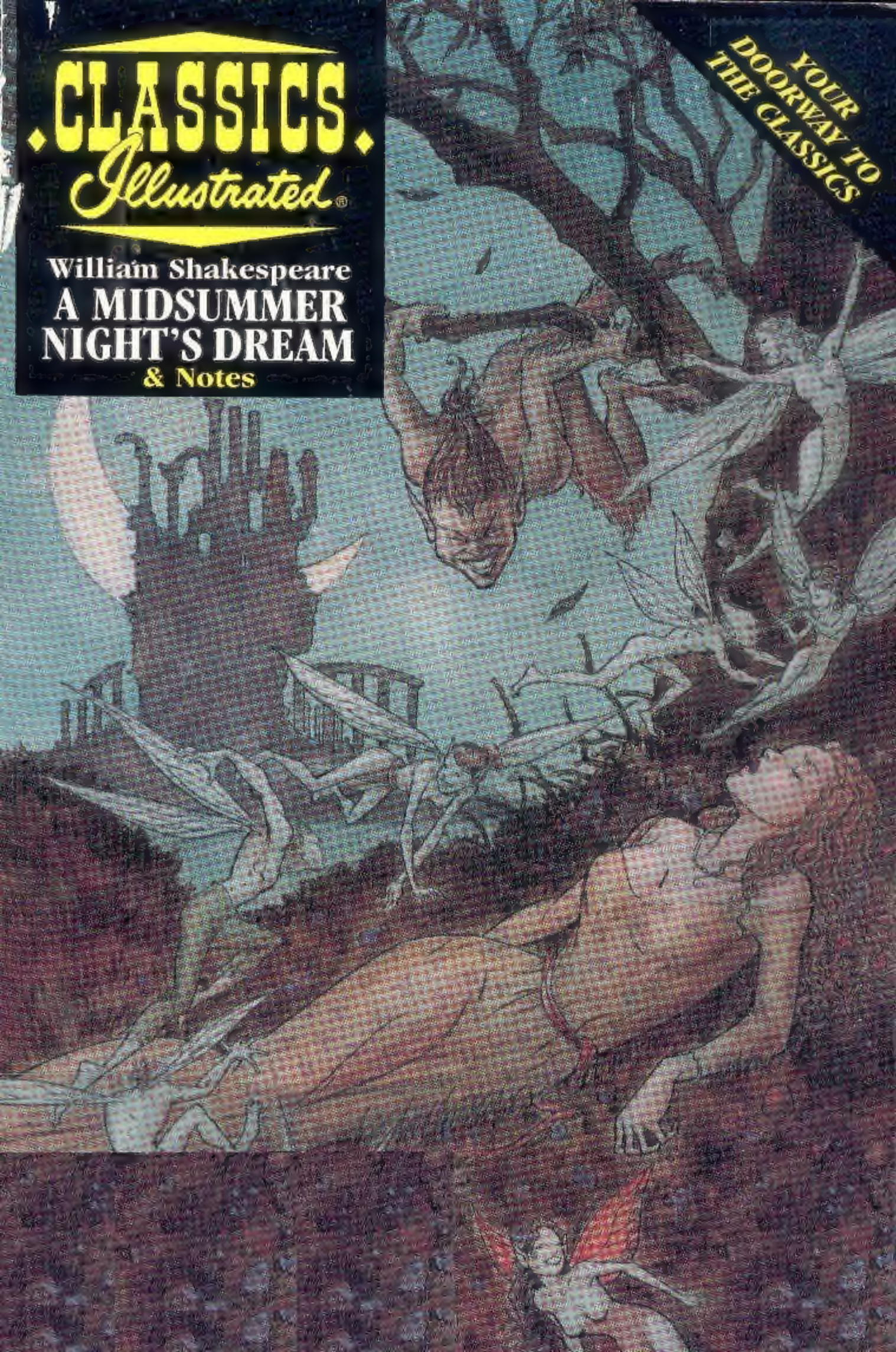
William Shakespeare

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

& Notes



A Midsummer Night's Dream

art by Alex Blum

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Dale-Chall R.L.: 7.65

ISBN 1-57840-010-4

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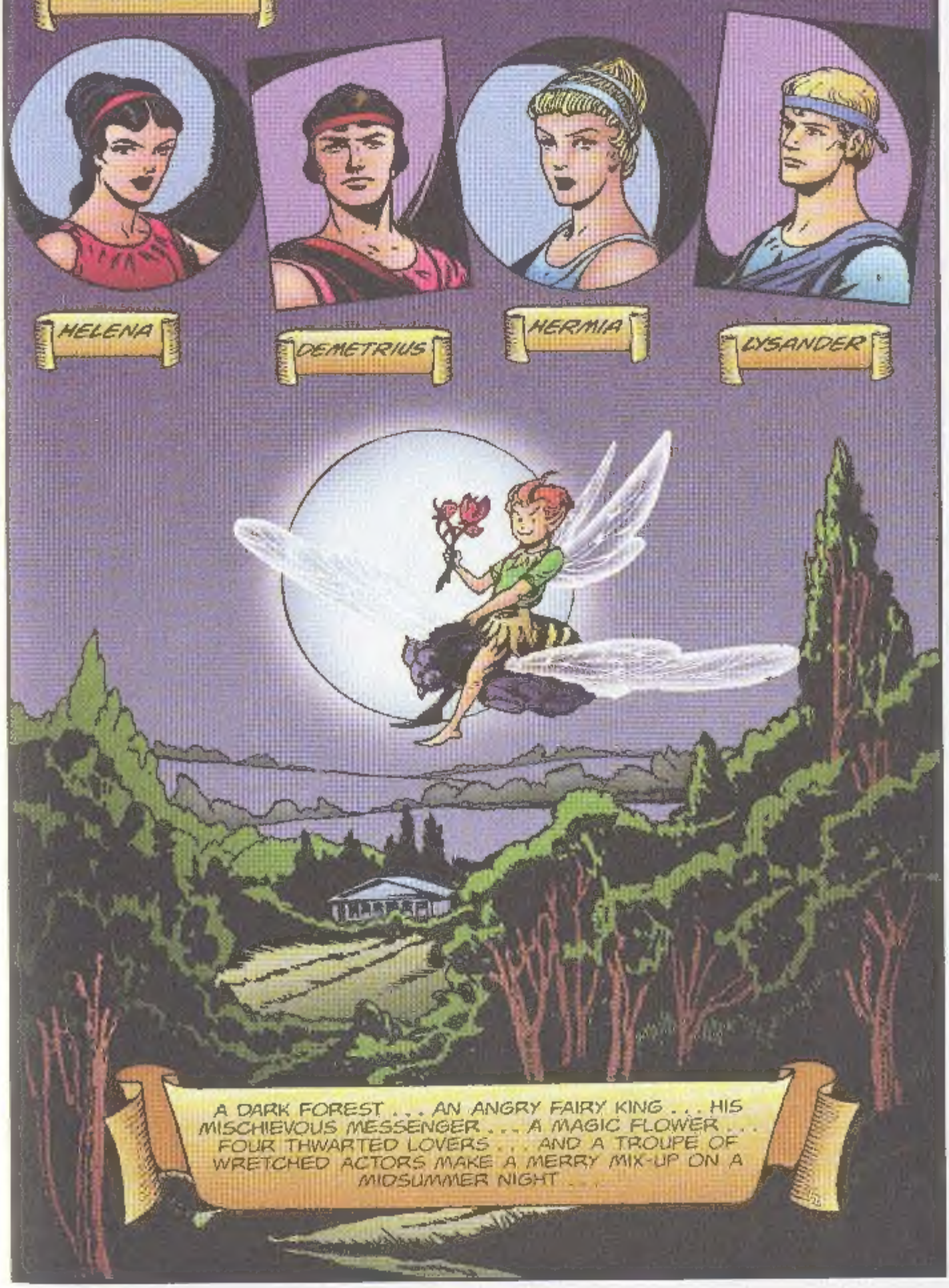
Acclaim Books, New York, NY
Printed in the United States

STUDY GUIDE

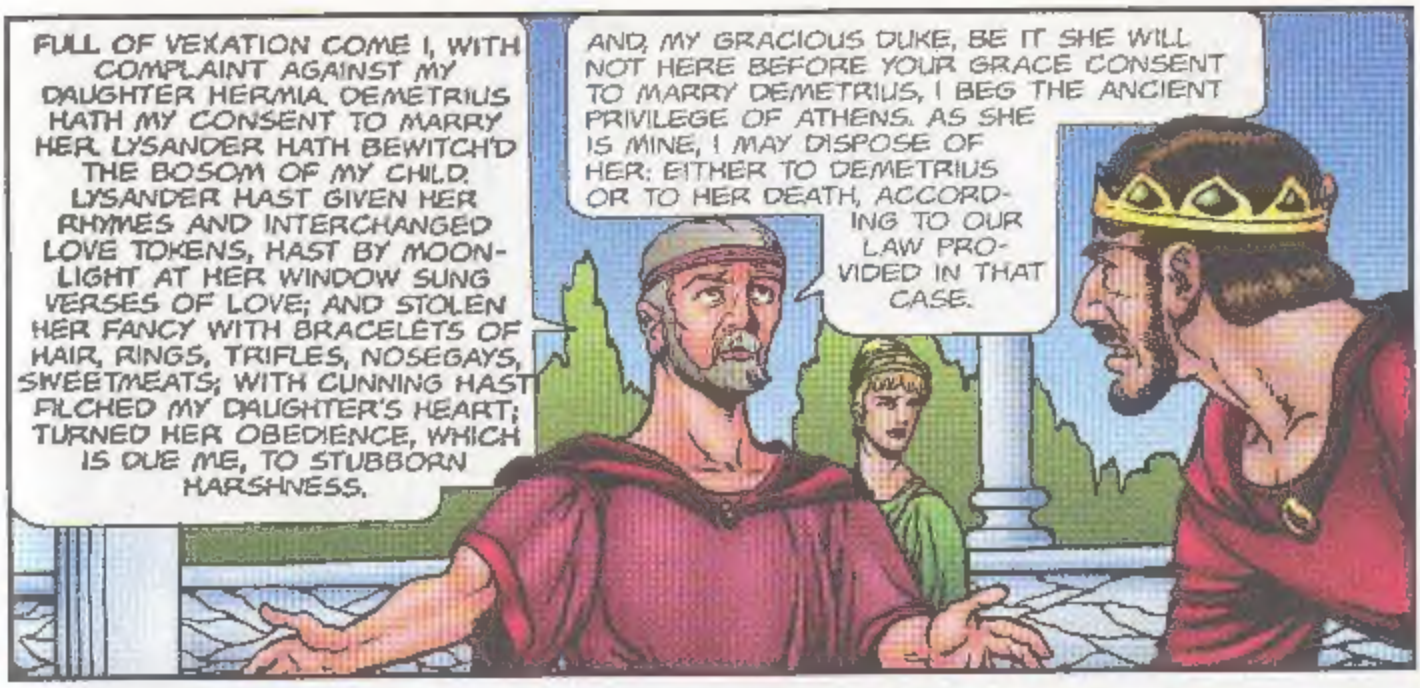
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

BY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

ILLUSTRATED BY ALEX A. BLUM



IN HIS PALACE, THESEUS, DUKE OF ATHENS, AND HIPPOLYTA, QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS, DISCUSS THEIR COMING WEDDING . .
FAIR HIPPOLYTA, OUR NUPTIAL HOUR DRAWS ON. FOUR HAPPY DAYS BRING IN ANOTHER MOON. BUT, O, HOW SLOW THIS OLD MOON WANES.
FOUR DAYS WILL QUICKLY STEEP THEMSELVES IN NIGHT; FOUR NIGHTS WILL QUICKLY DREAM AWAY THE TIME.
GO, PHILOSTRATE.' STIR UP THE YOUTH TO MERRIMENTS.
'THE COURT JESTER
HAPPY BE THESEUS, OUR RENOWNED DUKE.
THANKS, GOOD EGEUS. WHAT'S THE NEWS WITH THEE?

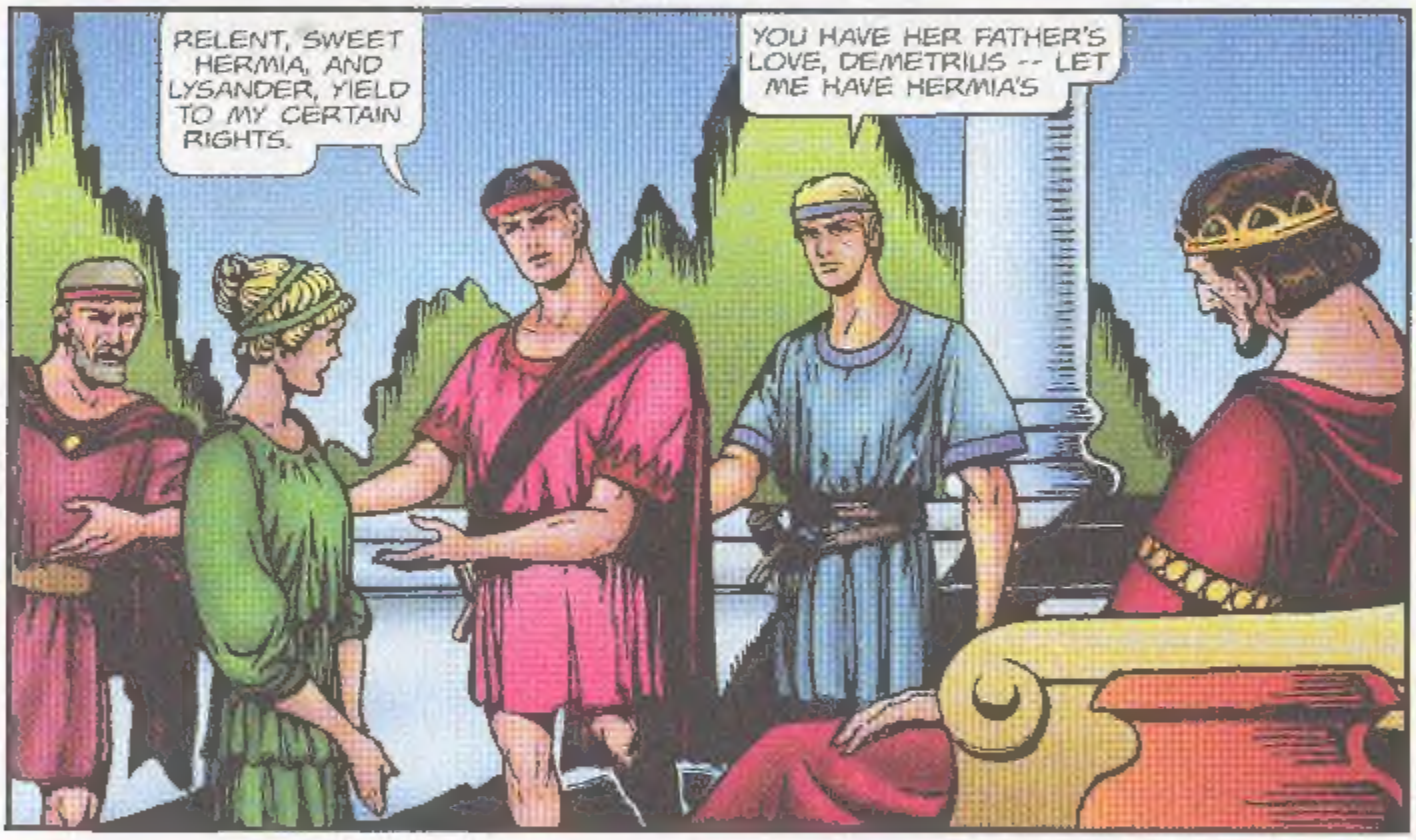

FULL OF VEXATION COME I, WITH COMPLAINT AGAINST MY DAUGHTER HERMIA. DEMETRIUS HATH MY CONSENT TO MARRY HER. LYSANDER HATH BEWITCH'D THE BOSOM OF MY CHILD. LYSANDER HAST GIVEN HER RHYMES AND INTERCHANGED LOVE TOKENS, HAST BY MOONLIGHT AT HER WINDOW SUNG VERSES OF LOVE; AND STOLEN HER FANCY WITH BRACELETS OF HAIR, RINGS, TRIFLES, NOSEGAYS, SWEETMEATS; WITH CUNNING HAST FILCHED MY DAUGHTER'S HEART; TURNED HER OBEDIENCE, WHICH IS DUE ME, TO STUBBORN HARSHNESS.
AND, MY GRACIOUS DUKE, BE IT SHE WILL NOT HERE BEFORE YOUR GRACE CONSENT TO MARRY DEMETRIUS, I BEG THE ANCIENT PRIVILEGE OF ATHENS. AS SHE IS MINE, I MAY DISPOSE OF HER: EITHER TO DEMETRIUS OR TO HER DEATH, ACCORDING TO OUR LAW PROVIDED IN THAT CASE.

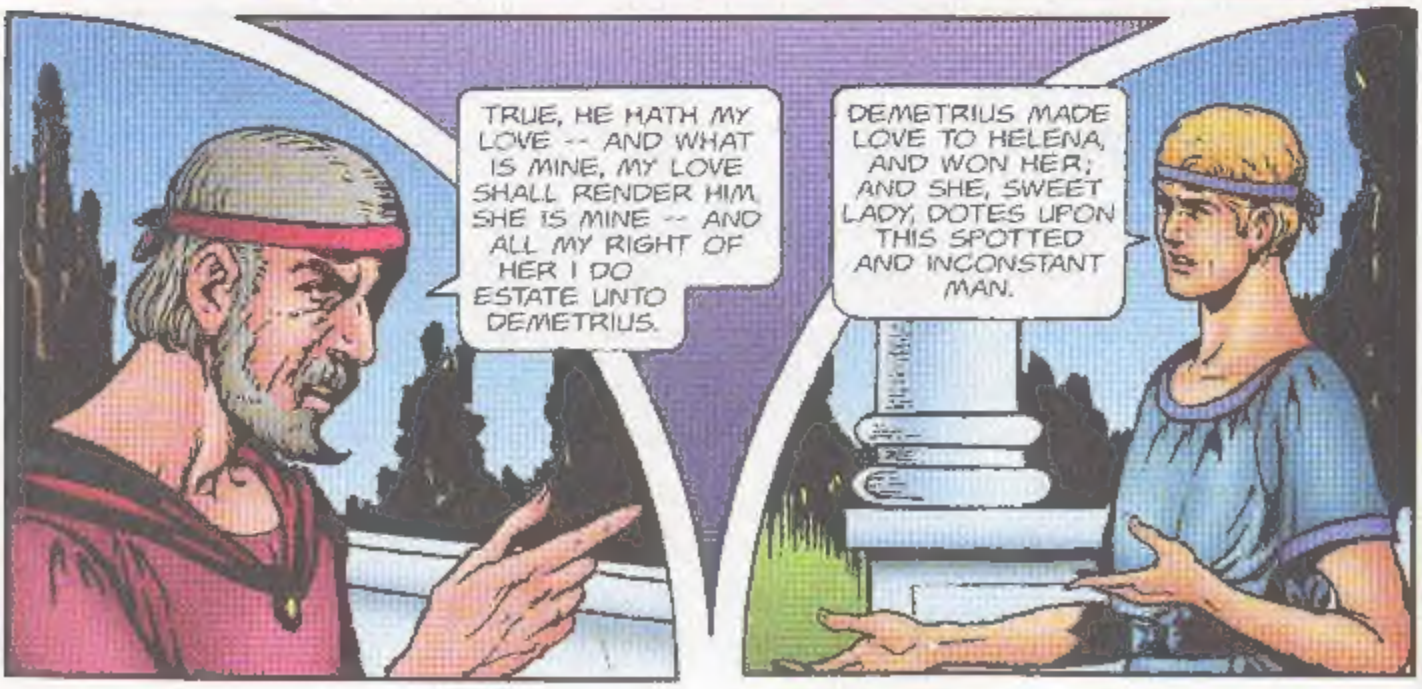
WHAT SAY YOU, HERMIA? DEMETRIUS IS A WORTHY GENTLEMAN.

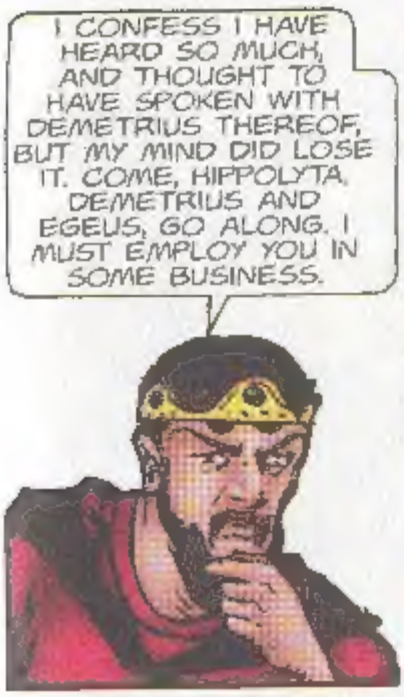
SO IS LYSANDER.

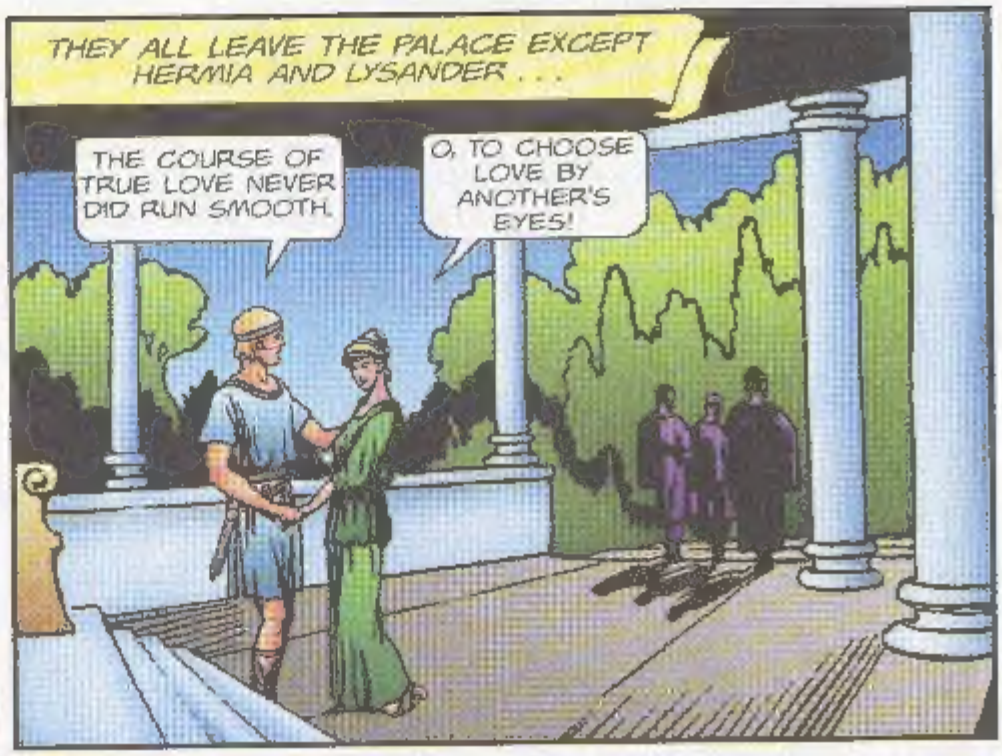
IN HIMSELF HE IS, BUT WANTING YOUR FATHER'S VOICE,* THE OTHER MUST BE HELD THE WORTHIER.
*APPROVAL

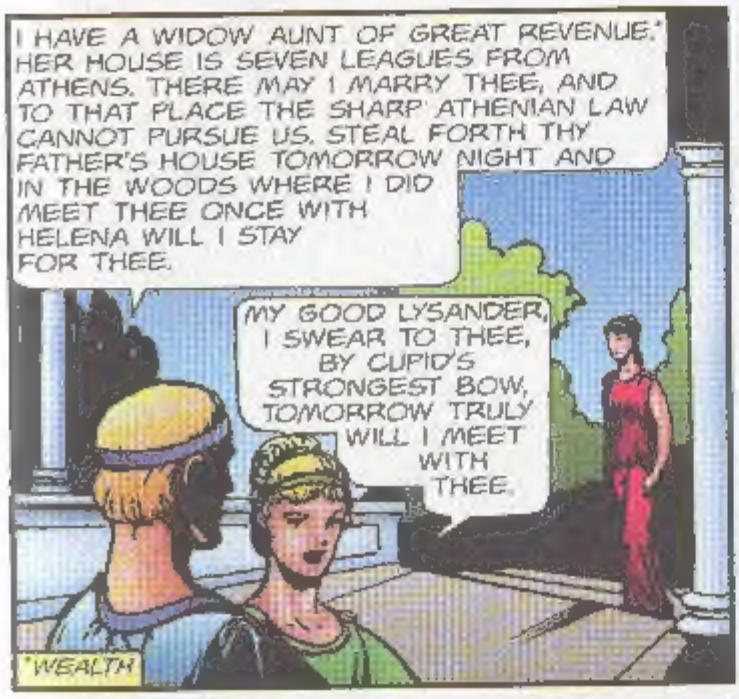
I BESEECH YOUR GRACE THAT I MAY KNOW THE WORST THAT MAY BEFALL ME IF I REFUSE TO WED DEMETRIUS.
EITHER TO DIE, OR ABJURE FOREVER THE SOCIETY OF MEN. THEREFORE, FAIR HERMIA, QUESTION YOUR DESIRES. BY THE NEXT FULL MOON, EITHER PREPARE TO DIE FOR DISOBEDIENCE; OR WED DEMETRIUS.
"GIVE UP"


RELENT, SWEET HERMIA, AND LYSANDER, YIELD TO MY CERTAIN RIGHTS.
YOU HAVE HER FATHER'S LOVE, DEMETRIUS -- LET ME HAVE HERMIA'S


TRUE, HE HATH MY LOVE -- AND WHAT IS MINE, MY LOVE SHALL RENDER HIM. SHE IS MINE -- AND ALL MY RIGHT OF HER I DO ESTATE UNTO DEMETRIUS.
DEMETRIUS MADE LOVE TO HELENA, AND WON HER; AND SHE, SWEET LADY, DOTES UPON THIS SPOTTED AND INCONSTANT MAN.


I CONFESS I HAVE HEARD SO MUCH, AND THOUGHT TO HAVE SPOKEN WITH DEMETRIUS THEREOF, BUT MY MIND DID LOSE IT. COME, HIPPOLYTA, DEMETRIUS AND EGEUS, GO ALONG. I MUST EMPLOY YOU IN SOME BUSINESS.


THEY ALL LEAVE THE PALACE EXCEPT HERMIA AND LYSANDER . . .
THE COURSE OF TRUE LOVE NEVER DID RUN SMOOTH.
O, TO CHOOSE LOVE BY ANOTHER'S EYES!


I HAVE A WIDOW AUNT OF GREAT REVENUE.* HER HOUSE IS SEVEN LEAGUES FROM ATHENS. THERE MAY I MARRY THEE, AND TO THAT PLACE THE SHARP ATHENIAN LAW CANNOT PURSUE US. STEAL FORTH THY FATHER'S HOUSE TOMORROW NIGHT AND IN THE WOODS WHERE I DID MEET THEE ONCE WITH HELENA WILL I STAY FOR THEE.
MY GOOD LYSANDER, I SWEAR TO THEE, BY CUPID'S STRONGEST BOW, TOMORROW TRULY WILL I MEET WITH THEE.
*WEALTH

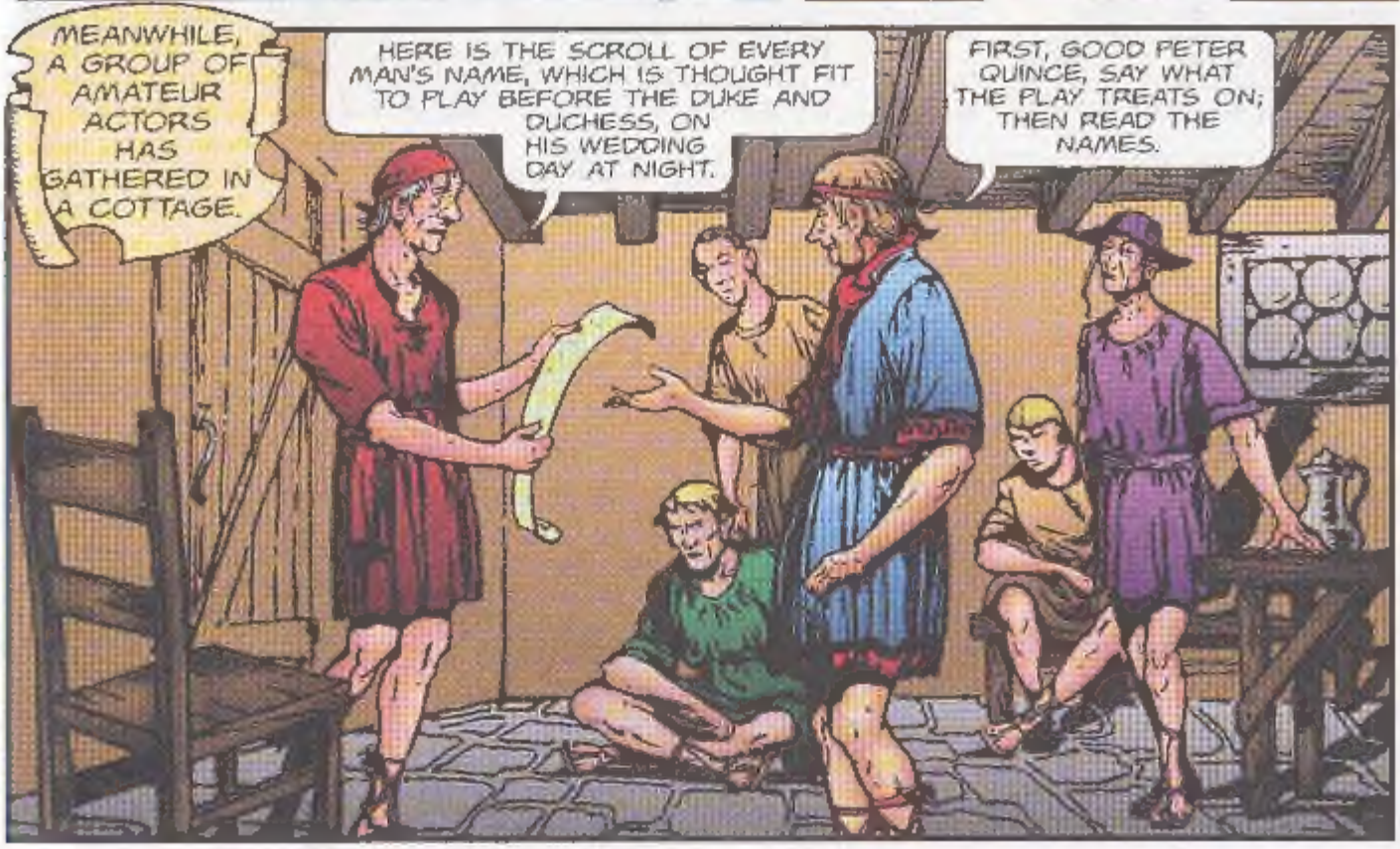
GOD SPEED, FAIR HELENA.
CALL YOU ME FAIR? DEMETRIUS LOVES YOUR FAIR. O, TEACH ME WITH WHAT ART YOU SWAY DEMETRIUS' HEART.

I FROWN UPON HIM, YET HE LOVES ME STILL; I GIVE HIM CURSES, YET HE GIVES ME LOVE. THE MORE I HATE, THE MORE HE FOLLOWS ME.
THE MORE I LOVE, THE MORE HE HATETH ME.

HIS FOLLY, HELENA, IS NO FAULT OF MINE.
NONE, BUT YOUR BEAUTY. WOULD THAT FAULT WERE MINE, HERMIA.

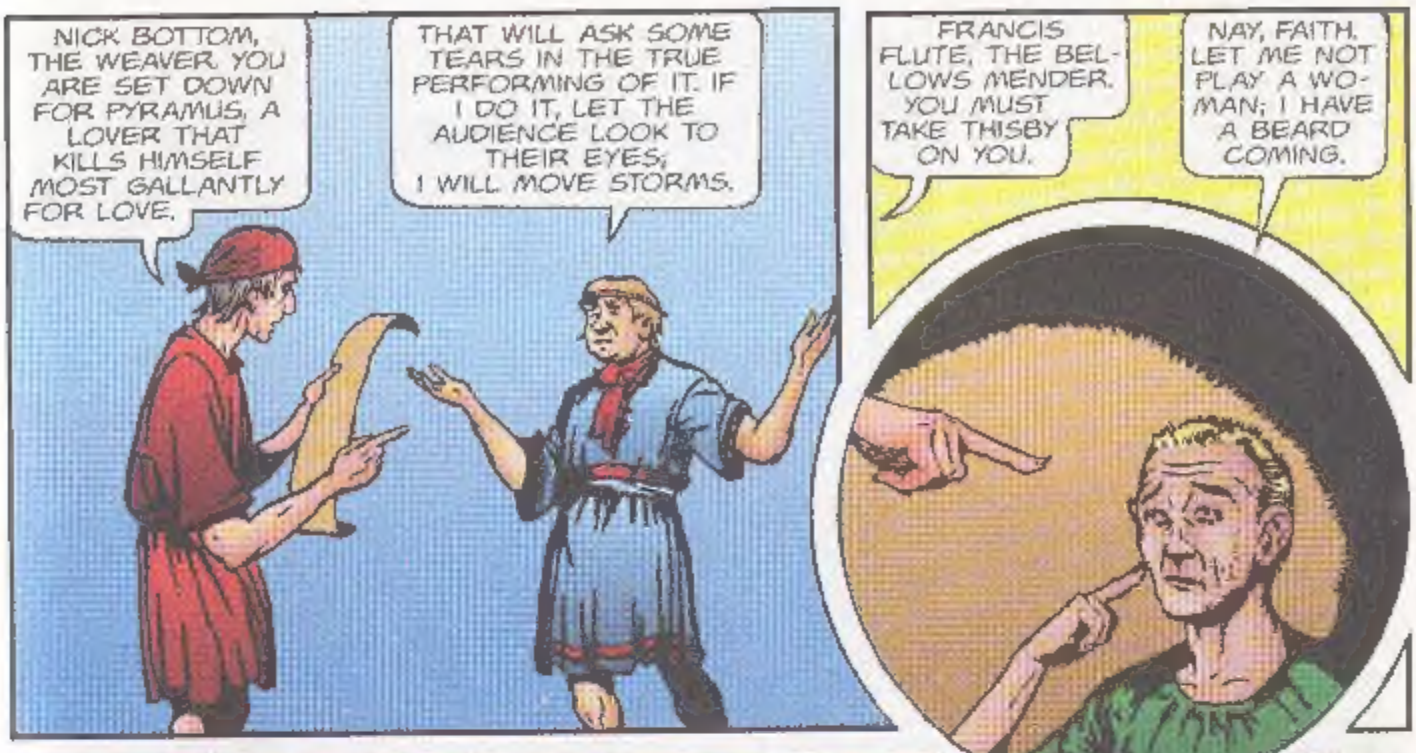
TAKE COMFORT; HE NO MORE SHALL SEE MY FACE. LYSANDER AND I WILL FLY THIS PLACE.
TOMORROW NIGHT, THROUGH ATHENS' GATES WE STEAL.

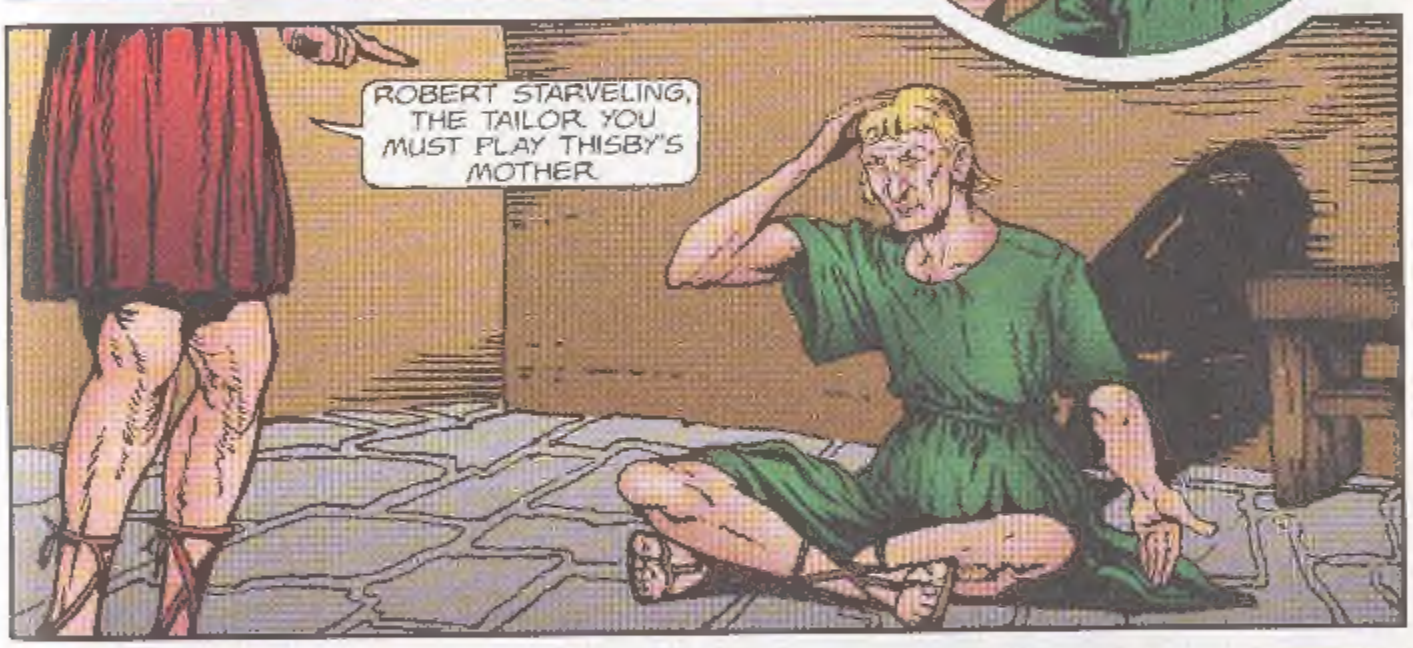
IN THE WOOD WHERE OFTEN YOU AND I WERE WONT TO LIE, THERE LYSANDER AND MYSELF SHALL MEET. AND FROM ATHENS TURN AWAY OUR EYES TO SEEK NEW FRIENDS. FAREWELL, GOOD LUCK GRANT THEE DEMETRIUS.


MEANWHILE, A GROUP OF AMATEUR ACTORS HAS GATHERED IN A COTTAGE.
HERE IS THE SCROLL OF EVERY MAN'S NAME, WHICH IS THOUGHT FIT TO PLAY BEFORE THE DUKE AND DUCHESS, ON HIS WEDDING DAY AT NIGHT.
FIRST, GOOD PETER QUINCE, SAY WHAT THE PLAY TREATS ON; THEN READ THE NAMES.

OUR PLAY IS "THE MOST LAMENTABLE COMEDY AND MOST CRUEL DEATH OF PYRAMUS AND THISBY."

A VERY GOOD PIECE OF WORK, I ASSURE YOU, AND A MERRY. NOW CALL FORTH YOUR ACTORS BY THE SCROLL.


NICK BOTTOM, THE WEAVER. YOU ARE SET DOWN FOR PYRAMUS, A LOVER THAT KILLS HIMSELF MOST GALLANTLY FOR LOVE.
THAT WILL ASK SOME TEARS IN THE TRUE PERFORMING OF IT. IF I DO IT, LET THE AUDIENCE LOOK TO THEIR EYES; I WILL MOVE STORMS.
FRANCIS FLUTE, THE BELLOWS MENDER. YOU MUST TAKE THISBY ON YOU.
NAY, FAITH. LET ME NOT PLAY A WOMAN; I HAVE A BEARD COMING.


ROBERT STARVELING, THE TAILOR. YOU MUST PLAY THISBY'S MOTHER.

TOM SNOUT, THE TINKER. YOU, PYRAMUS' FATHER; MYSELF, THISBY'S FATHER. SNUG, THE JOINER, YOU, THE LION'S PART.
HAVE YOU THE LION'S PART WRITTEN? GIVE IT TO ME, FOR I AM SLOW OF STUDY.

IT IS NOTHING BUT ROARING.
LET ME PLAY THE LION TOO. I WILL ROAR THAT I WILL DO ANY MAN'S HEART GOOD TO HEAR; I WILL MAKE THE DUKE SAY, "LET HIM ROAR AGAIN!"

IF YOU SHOULD DO IT TOO TERRIBLY, YOU WOULD FRIGHTEN THE DUCHESS AND THE LADIES THAT THEY WOULD SHRIEK; AND THAT WERE ENOUGH TO HANG US ALL.

THAT WOULD HANG US ALL, EVERY MOTHER'S SON.

THEY WOULD HANG US; BUT I WILL AGGRAVATE MY VOICE SO THAT I WILL ROAR AS GENTLY AS ANY DOVE; I WILL ROAR YOU AN'T WERE ANY NIGHTINGALE.

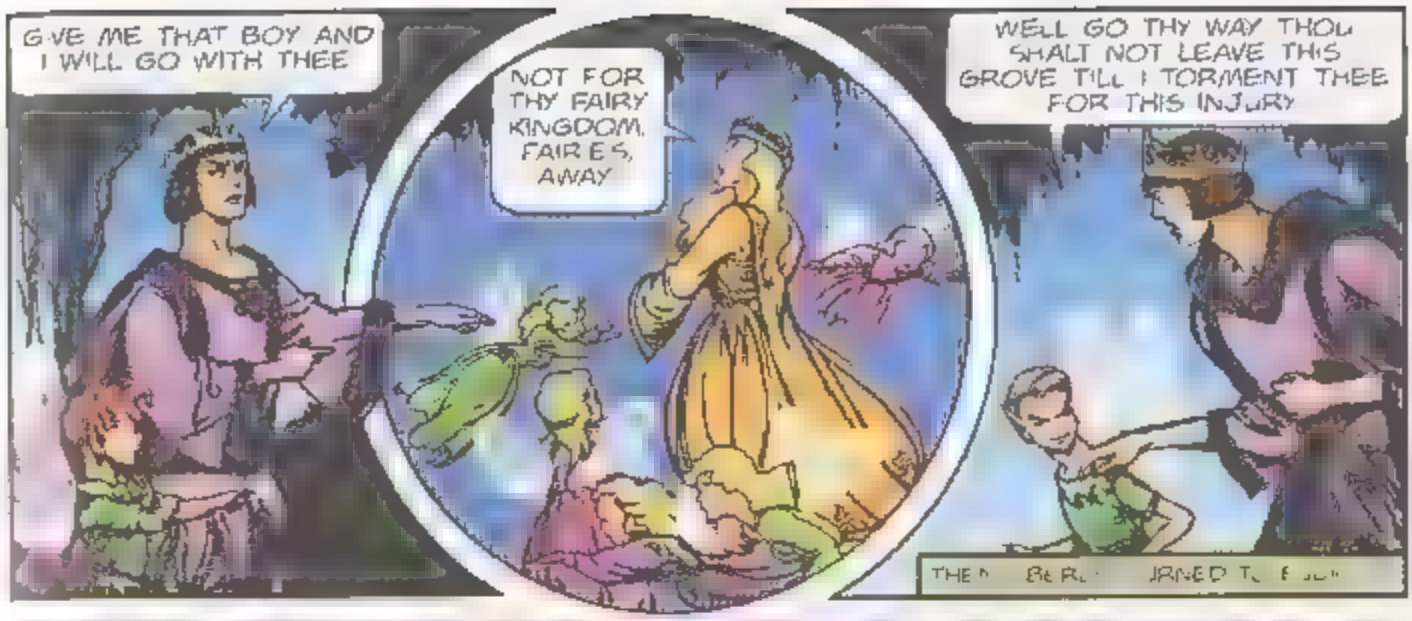
HERE ARE YOUR PARTS. I ENTREAT, REQUEST, AND DESIRE YOU TO CON' THEM BY TOMORROW NIGHT; AND MEET ME IN THE PALACE WOOD BY MOONLIGHT. THERE WILL WE REHEARSE. FAIL ME NOT.
'KNOW

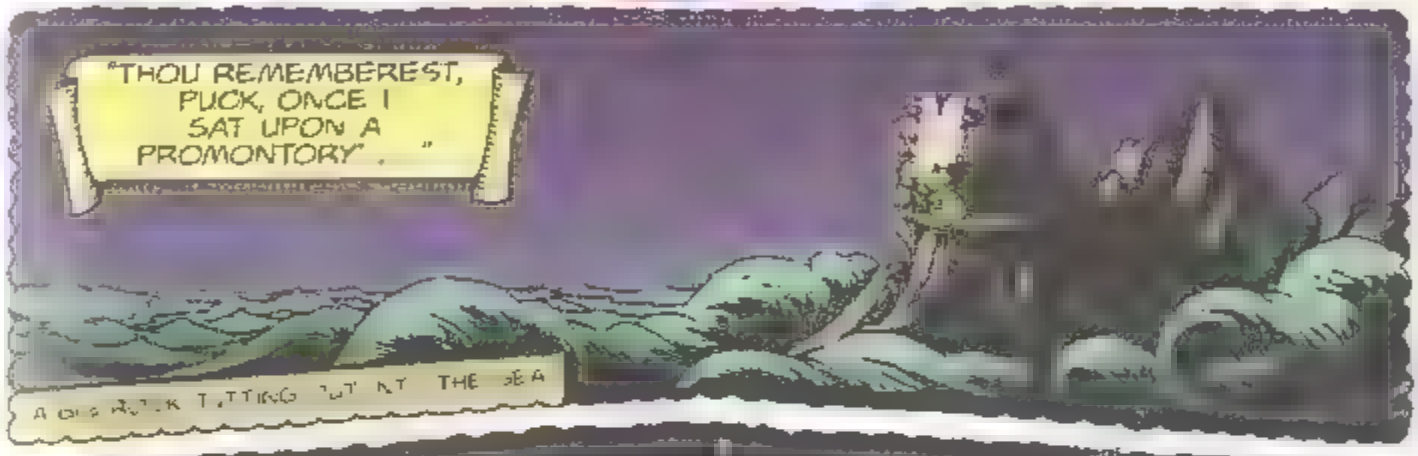
SOMETIME LATER, IN THE FOREST
HOW NOW SPIRIT! WHITHER WANDER YOU?
I DO WANDER EVERY-WHERE, SWIFTER THAN THE MOON'S SPHERE; AND I SERVE THE FAIRY QUEEN, TO DEW HER ORBS' UP'ON THE GREEN.
'FAIRY RINGS

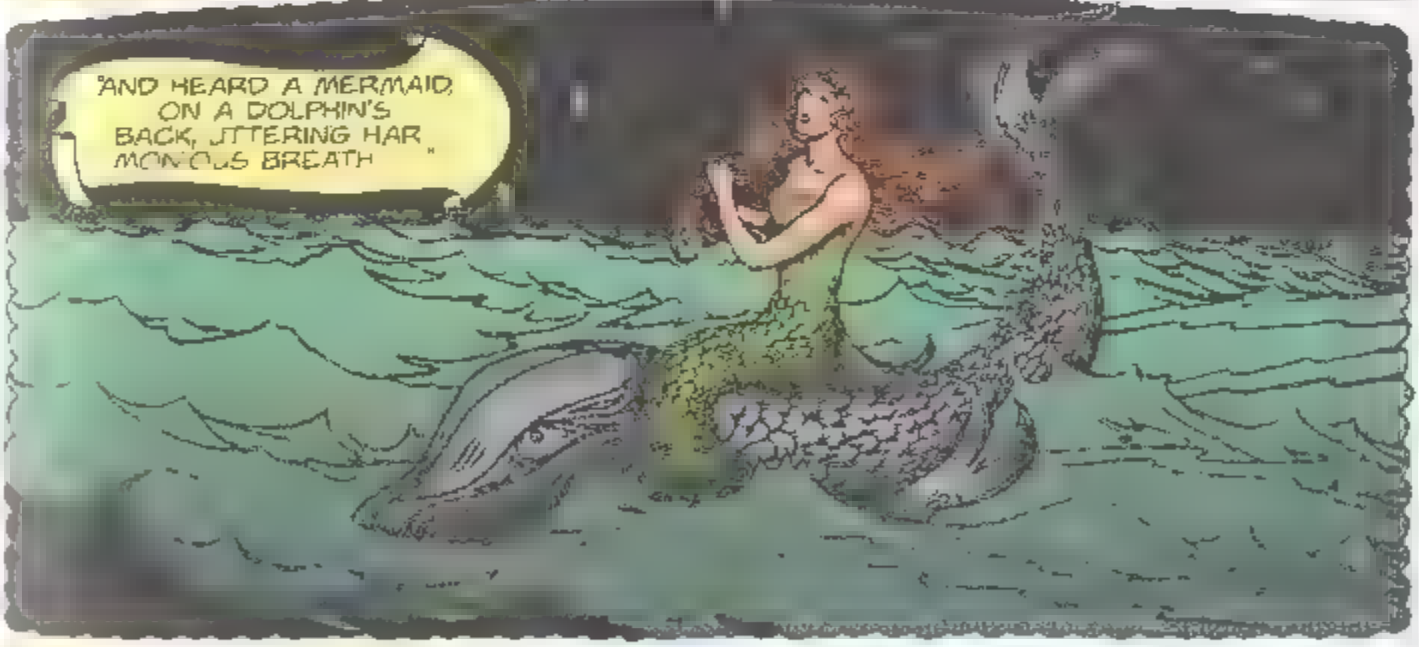
I MUST GO SEEK SOME DEWDROPS HERE, AND HANG A PEARL IN EVERY COWSLIP'S EAR. OUR QUEEN AND ALL OUR ELVES COME HERE.

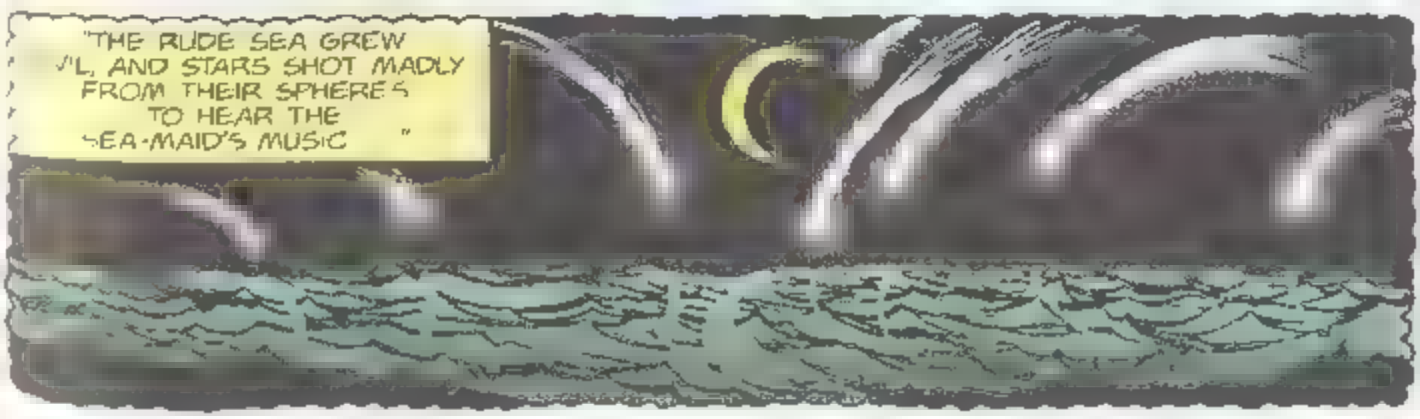
HAVE THE CHILD BUT
SHE WITHHOLDS
THE LOVED BOY
ETHER MISTAKE YOUR SHAPE AND MAKING QUITE OR ELSE YOU ARE THAT SHREWD AND KNAVISH SPRITE CALL'D ROBIN GOODFELLOW
THOU SPEAKEST ARIGHT AM THE MERRY WANDERER OF THE NIGHT BUT ROOM, FAIRY HERE COMES OBERON
AND HERE MY MISTRESS

WHAT, JEALOUS OBERON! FAIRIES, SKIP HENCE; I HAVE FORSWORN HIS COMPANY!
TARRY RASH WANTON AM NOT THY LORD?
THEN MUST BE THY LADY
HOW LONG WITHIN THIS WOOD INTEND YOU STAY?
TILL AFTER THESEUS WEDDING IF YOU WILL DANCE IN OUR ROUND AND SEE OUR MOONLIGHT REVELS. GO WITH US IF NOT SHUN ME, AND WILL SPARE YOUR HAUNTS


GIVE ME THAT BOY AND I WILL GO WITH THEE
NOT FOR THY FAIRY KINGDOM. FAIRIES, AWAY
WELL GO THY WAY THOU SHALT NOT LEAVE THIS GROVE TILL I TORMENT THEE FOR THIS INJURY


"THOU REMEMBEREST, PUCK, ONCE I SAT UPON A PROMONTORY . . ."


"AND HEARD A MERMAID, ON A DOLPHIN'S BACK, UTTERING HAR MONIOUS BREATH . . ."

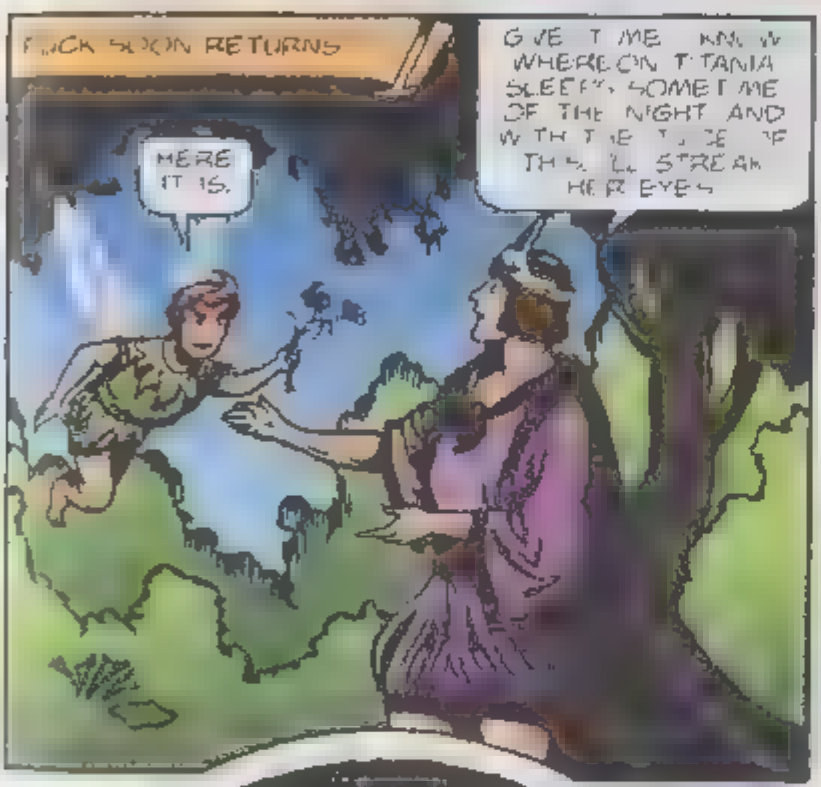

"THE RUDE SEA GREW CIVIL, AND STARS SHOT MADLY FROM THEIR SPHERES TO HEAR THE SEA-MAID'S MUSIC . . ."

REMEMBER
"THAT VERY TIME I SAW FLYING BETWEEN THE COLD MOON AND THE EARTH, CUPID ALL ARM'D"
"A CERTAIN AIM HE TOOK AT A FAIR VESTAL, AND LOOS'D HIS LOVE SHAFT SMARTLY FROM HIS BOW"
A MAIDEN
"BUT CUPID'S SHAFT PASSED ON."
MARKED WHERE THE BOLT FELL"
"IT FELL UPON A LITTLE WESTERN FLOWER
BEFORE MILK WHITE, NOW PURPLE WITH LOVE'S WOUND"

FETCH ME THAT FLOWER; THE HERB I SHOWED THEE ONCE; THE JUICE OF IT ON SLEEPING EYELIDS LAID WILL MAKE MAN OR WOMAN MADLY DOTE UPON THE NEXT LIVE CREATURE THAT IT SEES. FETCH ME THAT HERB, AND BE THOU HERE AGAIN ERE THE LEVIATHAN CAN SWIM A LEAGUE.
I'LL PUT A GIRDLE ROUND THE EARTH IN FORTY MINUTES.
I'LL WATCH TITANIA WHEN SHE IS ASLEEP, AND DROP THE LIQUOR OF IT IN HER EYES. THE NEXT THING THAT SHE, WAKING, LOOKS UPON, BE IT ON LION, BEAR, OR WOLF, OR BULL, OR MEDDLING MONKEY, OR ON BUSY APE, SHE SHALL PURSUE IT WITH THE SOUL OF LOVE. AND ERE I TAKE THIS CHARM OFF FROM HER SIGHT, AS I CAN TAKE IT WITH ANOTHER HERB, I'LL MAKE HER RENDER UP HER PAGE TO ME. BUT WHO COMES HERE? I AM INVISIBLE AND I WILL OVERHEAR THEIR CONFERENCE.

LOVE TEE NOT PURSUE ME NOT WHERE LYSANDER AND HERMIA? THE ONE I'LL SLAY THOU TOLD ME THEY WERE NOT IN THE WOOD AND HERE AM GET THEE GONE AND FOLLOW ME NO MORE
YOU DRAW ME
PLAINEST TRUTH TELL YOU THAT I DO NOT LOVE YOU
FOR THAT DO I LOVE YOU MORE AM YOUR SPANIEL, SPURN ME STRIKE ME NEGLECT ME LOST ME ONLY GIVE ME LEAVE TO FOLLOW YOU
MUST THE HATRED ON MY PART FOR AM SICK WHEN LOOK ON THEE
AND I AM SICK WHEN LOOK NOT ON THEE

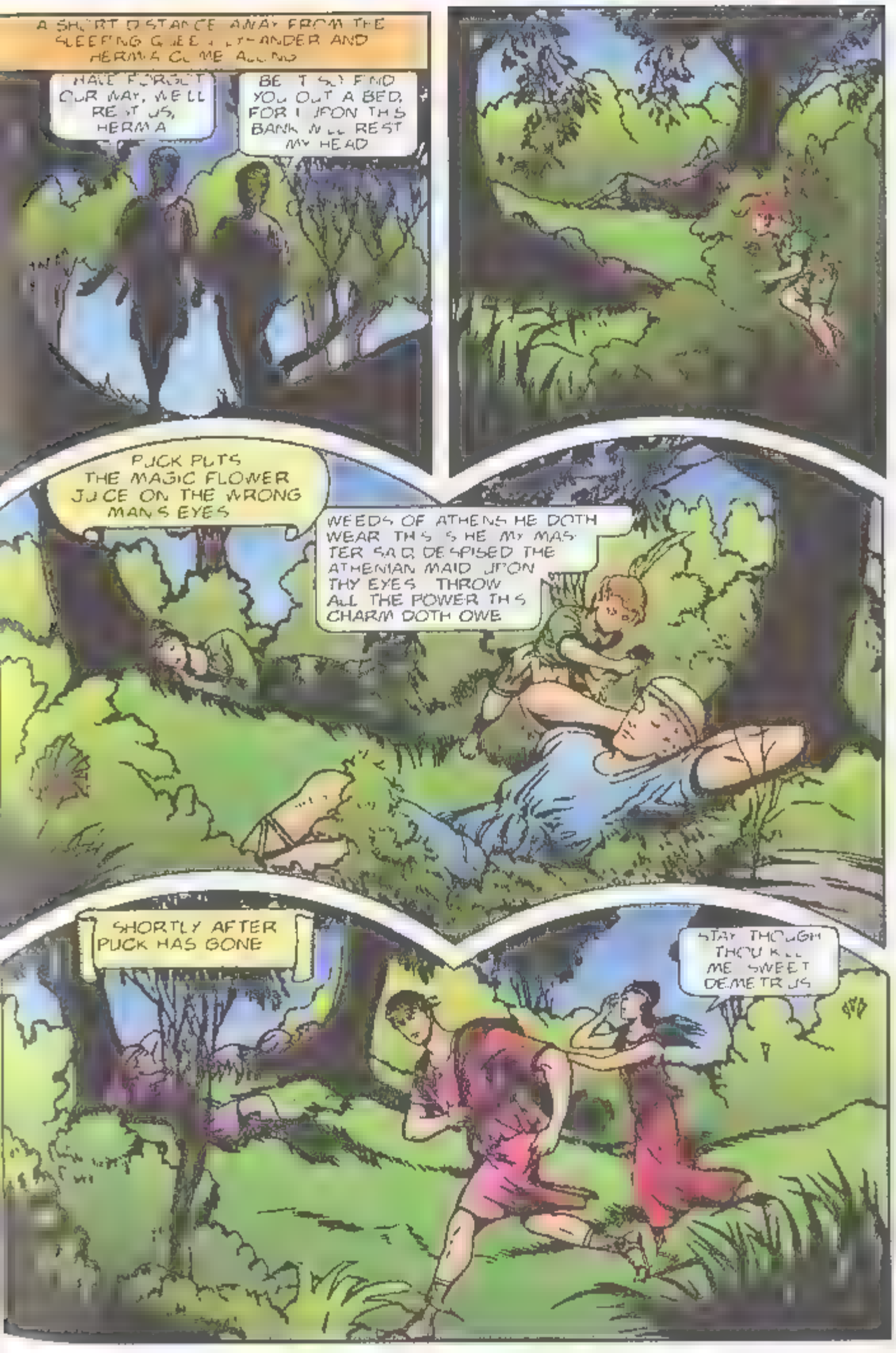
'LL RUN FROM THEE AND HIDE AND LEAVE THEE TO THE MERCY OF THE WILD BEASTS
THE WILDEST HATH NOT SUCH A HEART AS YOU
FARE THEE WELL NYMPH. ERE HE LEAVE THIS GROVE, HE SHALL SEEK THY LOVE


PUCK SOON RETURNS
GIVE THIS KNOW WHEREON TITANIA SLEEPS, SOME TIME OF THE NIGHT AND WITH THE JUICE OF THIS ILL STREAK HER EYES
HERE IT IS.

TAKE SOME OF IT, AND SEEK THROUGH THIS GROVE A SWEET ATHENIAN IN LOVE WITH A DISDAINFUL YOUTH ANOINT HIS EYES.

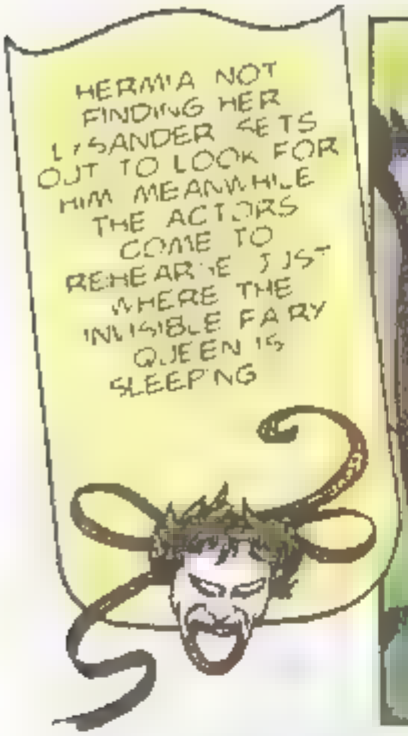
BUT DO IT WHEN THE NEXT THING HE ESPIES MAY BE THE LADY THOU SHALL KNOW THE MAN BY THE ATHENIAN GARMENTS HE HATH ON.
EFFECT SOME CARE THAT HE MAY PROVE MORE FOND OF HER
YOUR SERVANT SHALL DO SO

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST
SING ME NOW ASLEEP
KING OBERON SOON SEES THE SLEEPING QUEEN
HENCE AWAY NOW ALL SWEET
WHAT THOU SEEST WHEN THOU DOTH WAKE BE IT OUNCE, OR CAT, OR BEAR OR BOAR WITH BRISTLED HAIR, IN THY EYE THAT SHALL APPEAR DEAR WAKE WHEN SOME VILE THING IS NEAR.


A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY FROM THE SLEEPING GREEN LYSANDER AND HERMIA COME ALONG
HAVE FORGOT OUR WAY, WE'LL REST US, HERMIA
BE IT SO I FIND YOU OUT A BED, FOR I UPON THIS BANK WILL REST MY HEAD
PUCK PUTS THE MAGIC FLOWER JUICE ON THE WRONG MAN'S EYES
WEEDS OF ATHENS HE DOTH WEAR THIS SHE MY MASTER SAW DESPISED THE ATHENIAN MAID UPON THY EYES THROW ALL THE POWER THIS CHARM DOTH OWE
SHORTLY AFTER PUCK HAS GONE
STAY THOUGH THOU KILL ME SWEET DEMETRIUS

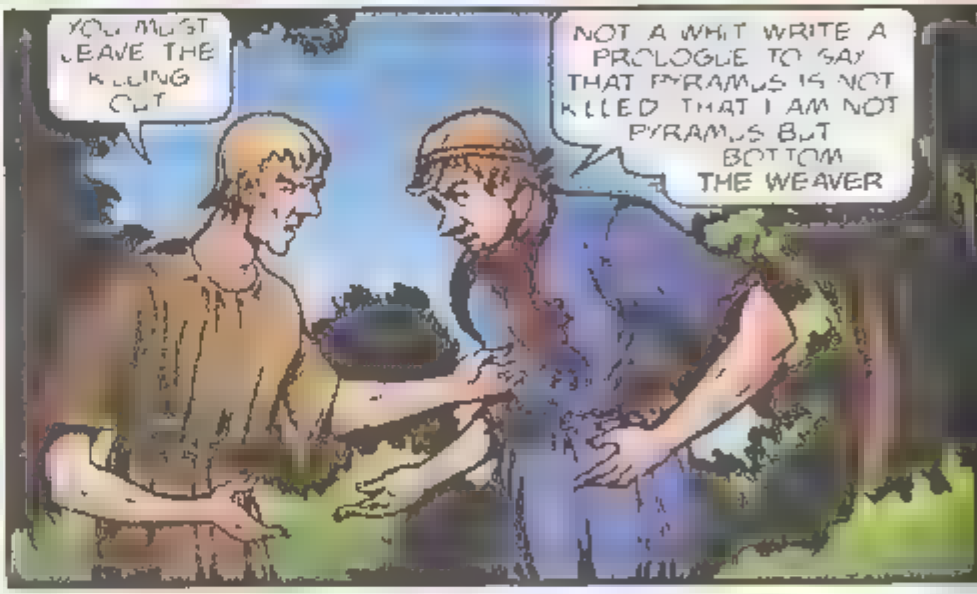
BREATH
GROUND!
DEAD OR ASLEEP
NO WOUND LYSAN
DER
AWAKE
AS LYSANDER AWAKENS THE JUICE OF THE MAGIC FLOWER TAKES EFFECT AS HELENA IS THE FIRST ONE HE SEES UPON AWAKENING HE IS FORCED TO FALL IN LOVE WITH HER.
WHERE
HOW
FIT A WORD IS THAT
VILE NAME TO PERISH
BY MY SWORD!
SAY NOT SO WHAT THOUGH
BE CONTENT

HERMIA NOT
HERMIA BUT
CHANGE A RAVEN
FOR A DOVE
HELENA NOT UNDERSTANDING THAT
THE MAGIC FLOWER IS WORKING ON
LYSANDER THINKS HE IS TEASING
WHEREFORE
NEAR
OF ALL BE HATED BUT THE MOST OF
ME AND ALL MY POWERS, ADDRESS
YOUR LOVE AND MIGHT TO HONOR
HELEN AND TO BE
LYSANDER LEAVES HERMIA TO FOL
W HELENA HIS FORMER SWEETHEART
AWAKENS FROM A BAD DREAM
LYSANDER HELP
ME TO PLUCK THIS
CRAW
PENT FROM ME


HERMIA NOT FINDING HER LYSANDER SETS OUT TO LOOK FOR HIM MEANWHILE THE ACTORS COME TO REHEARSE JUST WHERE THE INVISIBLE FARY QUEEN IS SLEEPING

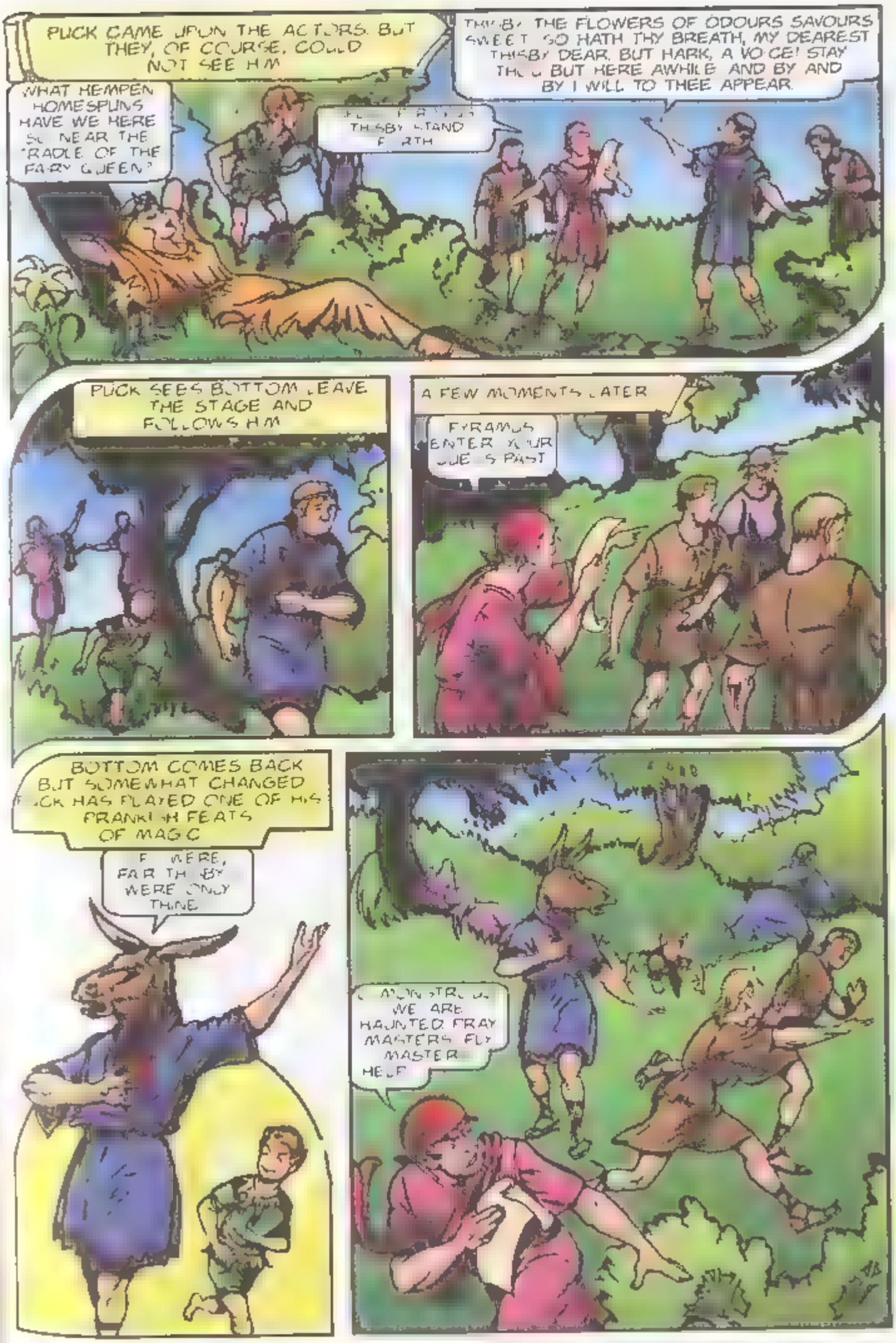
THIS SHALL BE OUR STAGE

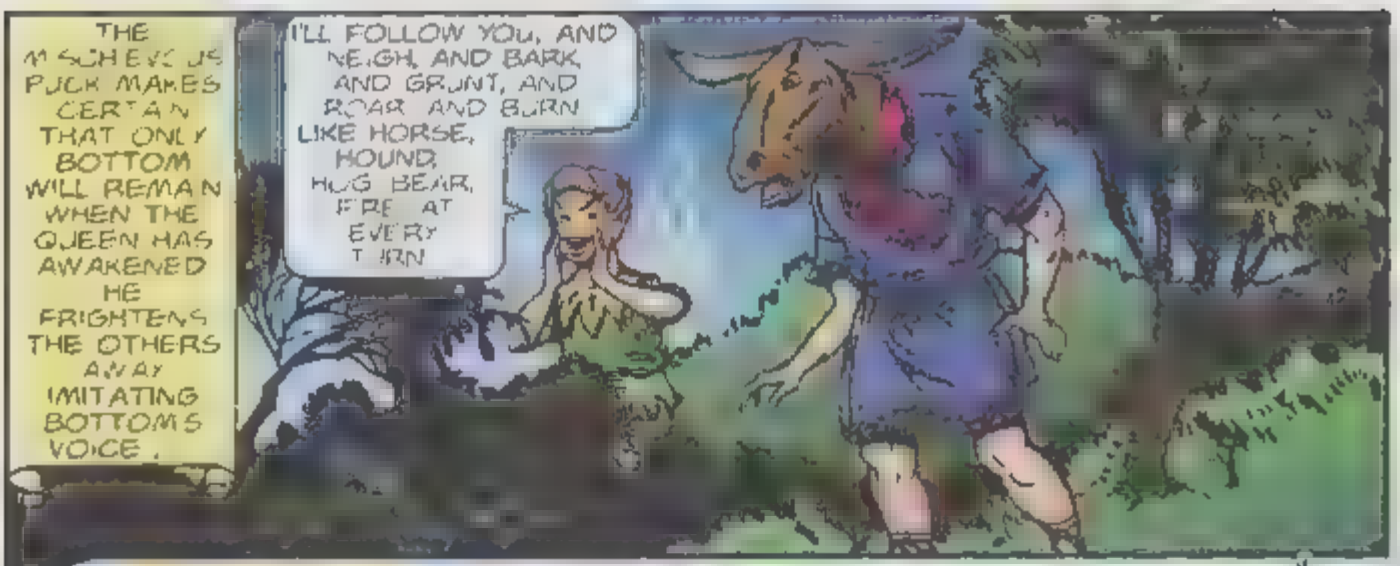
THERE ARE THINGS IN THIS COMEDY THAT WILL NEVER PLEASE FIRST, PYRAMUS MUST KILL HIMSELF WHICH THE LADIES CANNOT ABIDE

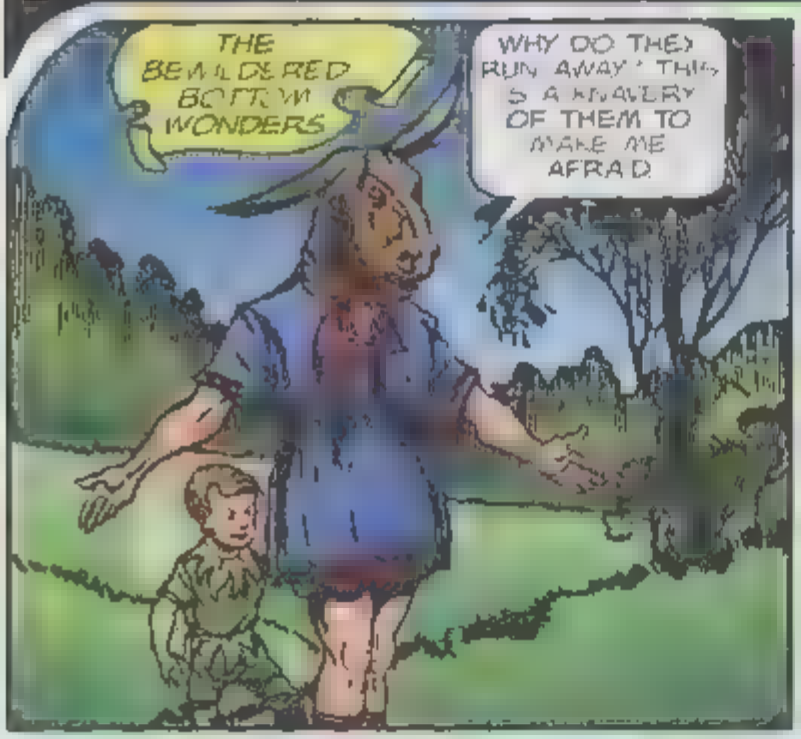

YOU MUST LEAVE THE KILLING OUT
NOT A WHIT WRITE A PROLOGUE TO SAY THAT PYRAMUS IS NOT KILLED THAT I AM NOT PYRAMUS BUT BOTTOM THE WEAVER

WE WILL HAVE SUCH A PROLOGUE
WILL NOT THE LADIES BE AFEARD OF THE LION
I FEAR IT I PROMISE YOU

NAME HIS NAME, AND HALF HIS FACE MUST BE SEEN THROUGH THE LION'S NECK, AND HE HIMSELF MUST SPEAK, SAYING, "FEAR NOT" AND TELL THEM HE IS SNUG THE JOINER


PUCK CAME UPON THE ACTORS. BUT THEY, OF COURSE, COULD NOT SEE HIM
WHAT HEMPEN HOMESPUNS HAVE WE HERE SO NEAR THE CRADLE OF THE FAIRY QUEEN?
THISBY THE FLOWERS OF ODOURS SAVOURS SWEET SO HATH THY BREATH, MY DEAREST THISBY DEAR. BUT HARK, A VOICE! STAY THOU BUT HERE AWHILE AND BY AND BY I WILL TO THEE APPEAR.
THISBY STAND FORTH
PUCK SEES BOTTOM LEAVE THE STAGE AND FOLLOWS HIM
A FEW MOMENTS LATER
PYRAMUS ENTER YOUR JUE'S PAST
BOTTOM COMES BACK BUT SOMEWHAT CHANGED PUCK HAS PLAYED ONE OF HIS PRANKISH FEATS OF MAGIC
IF I WERE, FAIR THISBY WERE ONLY THINE
MONSTROUS WE ARE HAUNTED PRAY MASTERS FLY MASTER HELP

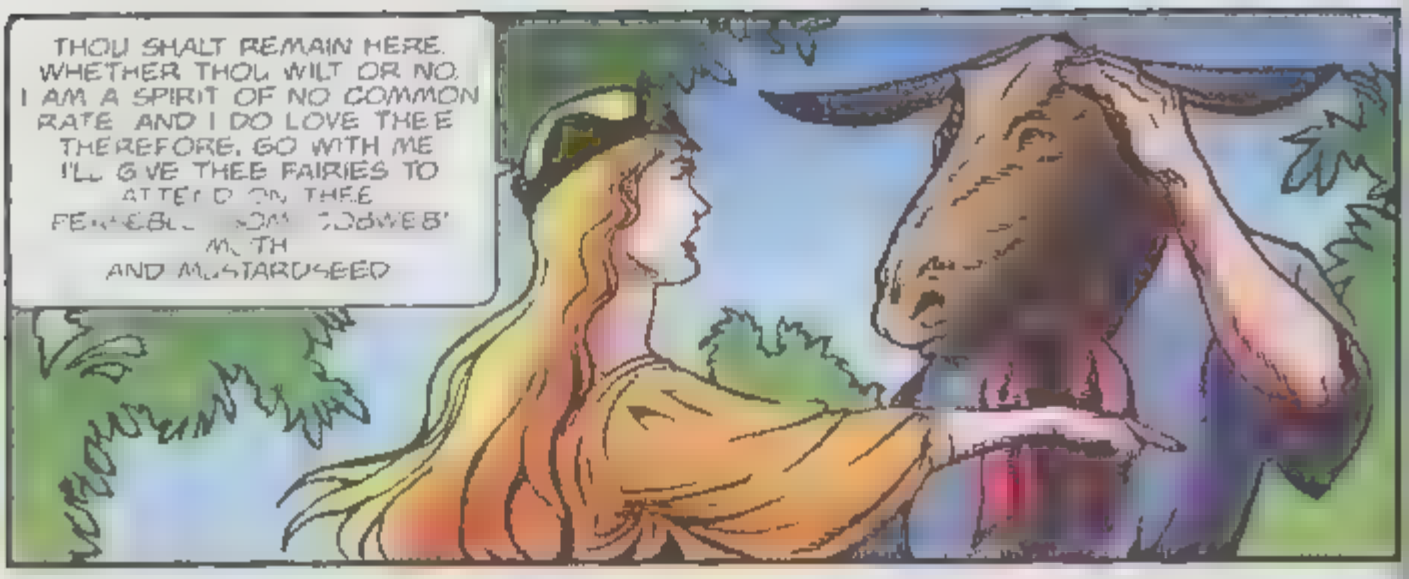

THE MISCHIEVOUS PUCK MAKES CERTAIN THAT ONLY BOTTOM WILL REMAIN WHEN THE QUEEN HAS AWAKENED. HE FRIGHTENS THE OTHERS AWAY IMITATING BOTTOM'S VOICE.
I'LL FOLLOW YOU, AND NEIGH, AND BARK, AND GRUNT, AND ROAR AND BURN LIKE HORSE, HOUND, HOG, BEAR, FIRE AT EVERY TURN.


THE BEWILDERED BOTTOM WONDERS
WHY DO THEY RUN AWAY? THIS IS A KNAVERY OF THEM TO MAKE ME AFRAID.

I SEE THEIR KNAVERY, THIS IS TO MAKE AN ASS OF ME, TO FRIGHT ME, IF THEY COULD. BUT I WILL NOT STIR FROM THIS PLACE. I WILL SING, AND THEY SHALL HEAR I'M NOT AFRAID.

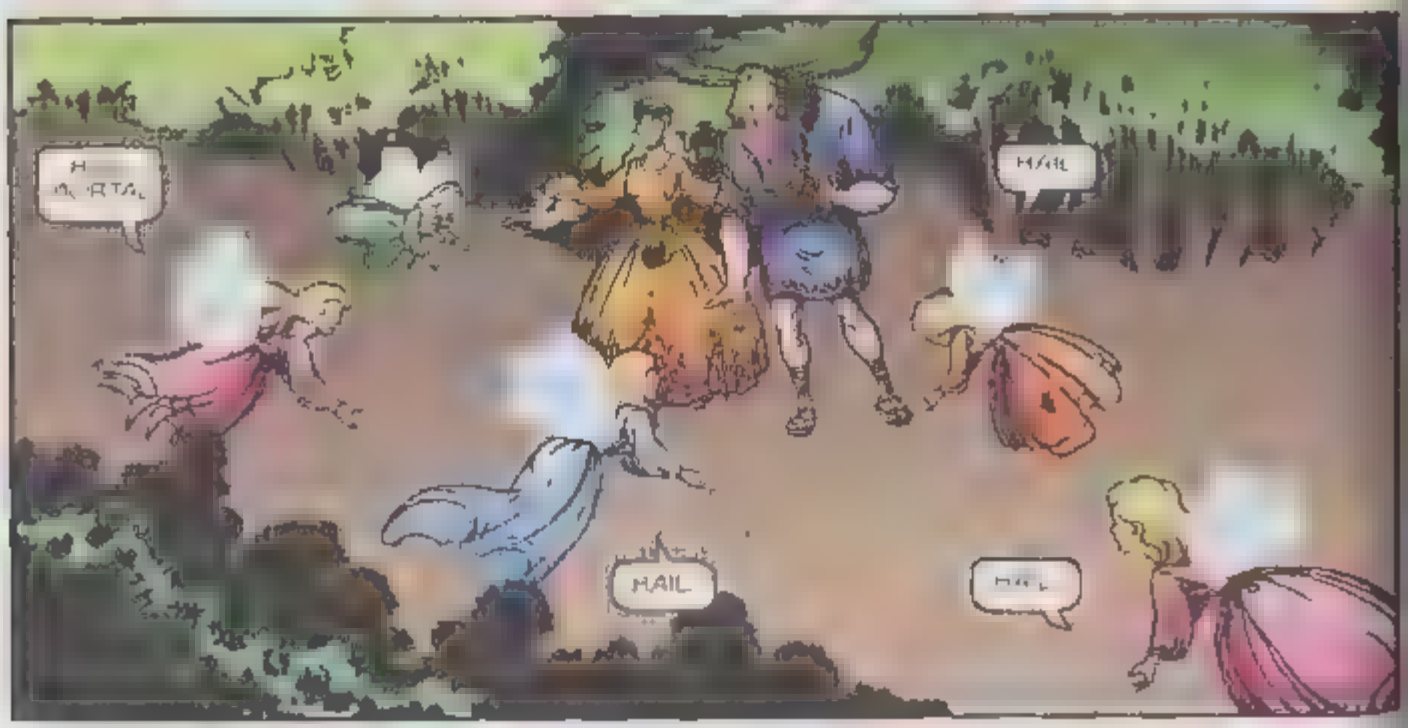
BOTTOM'S SINGING AWAKENS THE FAIRY QUEEN. HE IS THE FIRST ONE SHE WILL SEE AND THE MAGIC FLOWER WILL MAKE HER FALL IN LOVE WITH HIM, DONKEY HEAD AND ALL.

PRAY THEE GENTLE MORTAL SING AGAIN MINE EAR IS MUCH ENAMOURED BY THY NOTE SO IS MINE EYE ENTHRALLED TO THY SHAPE AND THY VIRTUE'S FORCE PERFORCE DOTH MOVE ME ON THE FIRST VIEW TO SAY TO SWEAR I LOVE THEE
METHINKS MISTRESS YOU SHOULD HAVE LITTLE REASON FOR THAT AND YET TO SAY THE TRUTH REASON AND LOVE KEEP LITTLE COMPANY TOGETHER NOWADAYS THE MORE THE PITY THAT SOME HONEST NEIGHBORS WILL NOT MAKE THEM FRIENDS
NOT SO GETHER BUT IF LEAD WIT ENOUGH TO GET OUT IF THIS WOOD HAVE ENOUGH TO SERVE
THOU ART AS WISE AS THOU ART BEAUTIFUL

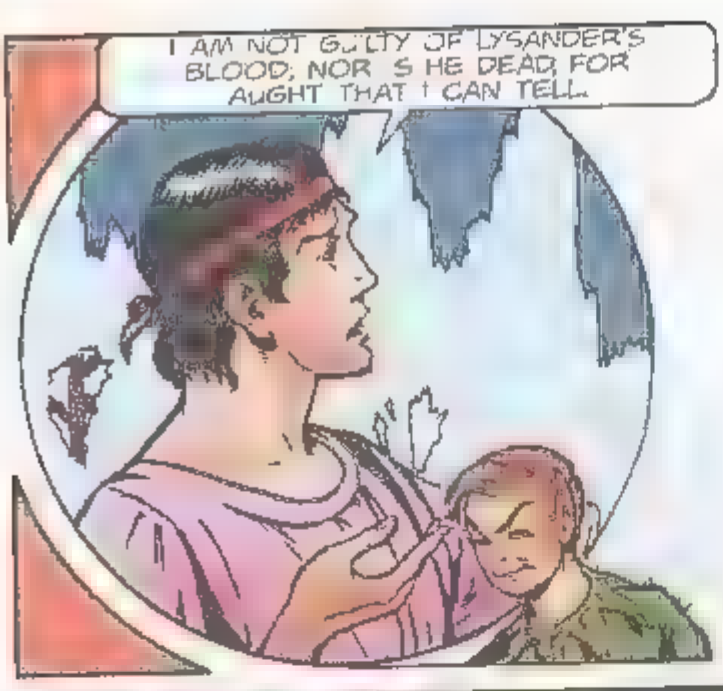

THOU SHALT REMAIN HERE. WHETHER THOU WILT OR NO. I AM A SPIRIT OF NO COMMON RATE AND I DO LOVE THEE THEREFORE, GO WITH ME I'LL GIVE THEE FAIRIES TO ATTEND ON THEE
MOTH
AND MUSTARDSEED

READY
TO THIS GENTLEMAN
AND
WHERE SHALL WE GO

HOP IN HIS WALKS AND GAMBOL IN HIS EYES, FEED HIM WITH APRICOCKS AND DEWBERRIES, WITH PURPLE GRAPES, GREEN FIGS AND MULBERRIES NOD TO HIM AND DO HIM COURTESIES


HAIL
HAIL
HAIL

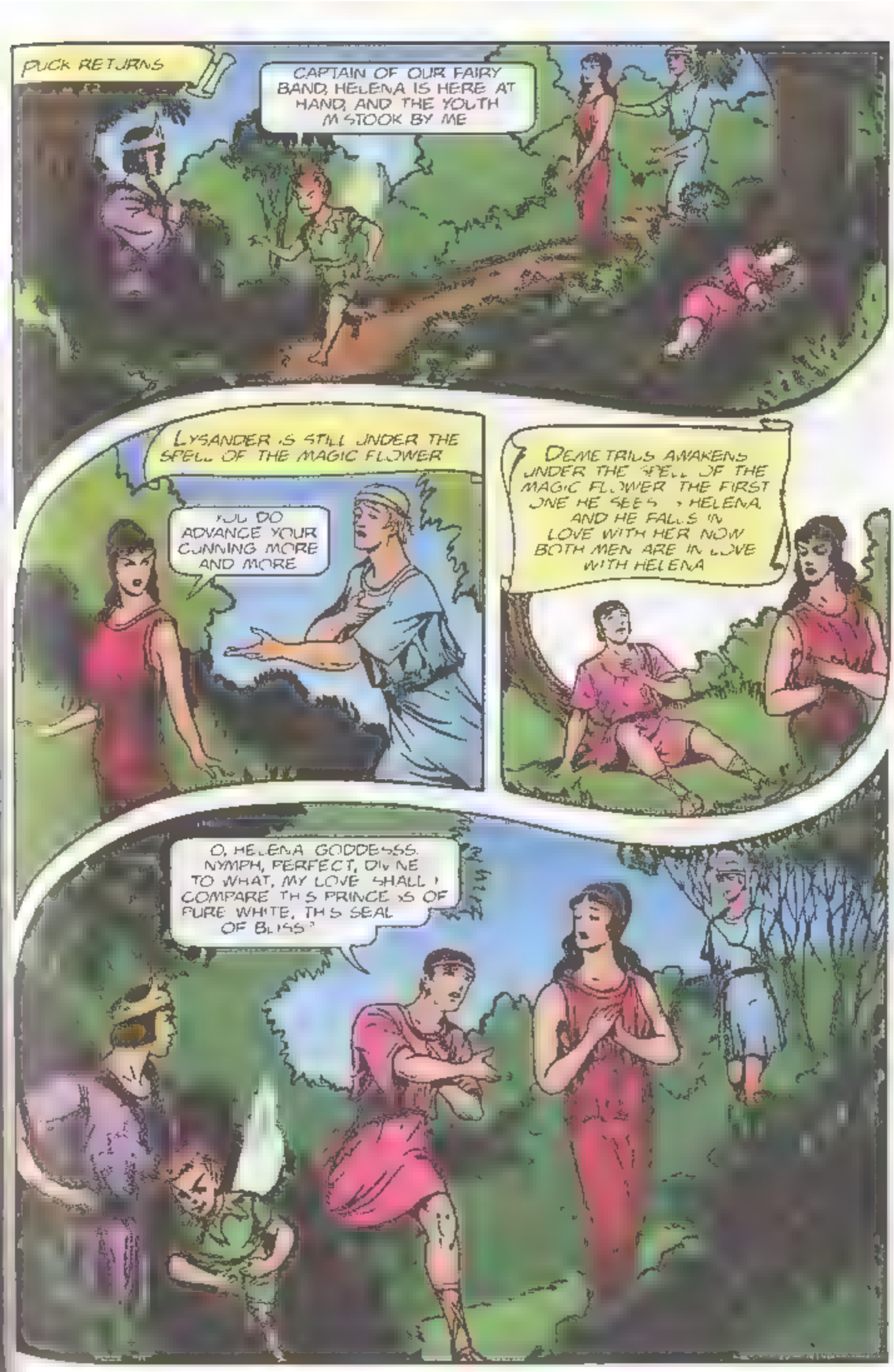
COMES MY MESSENGER.
SLEEPING
WHY REBUKE HIM THAT
LEEP, KILL ME, TOO


I AM NOT GUILTY OF LYSANDER'S BLOOD; NOR IS HE DEAD, FOR AUGHT THAT I CAN TELL.

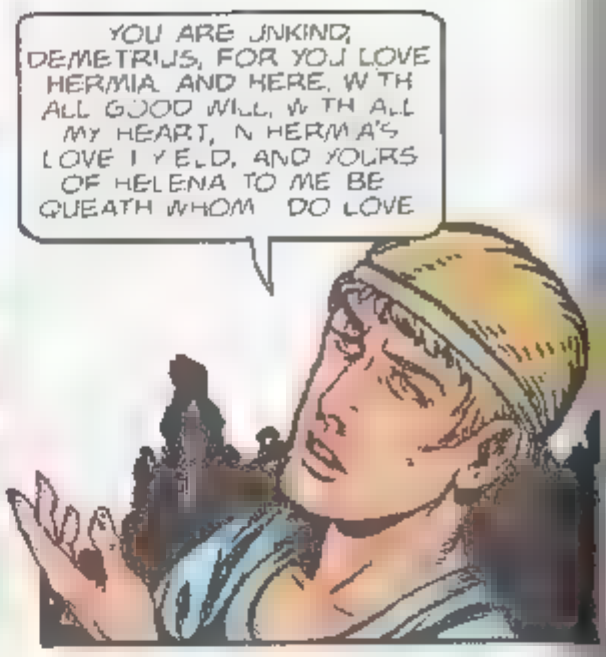
NEVER SEE ME NO MORE AND FROM THY HATED PRESENCE PART SO, SEE ME NO MORE WHETHER HE BE DEAD OR NO.

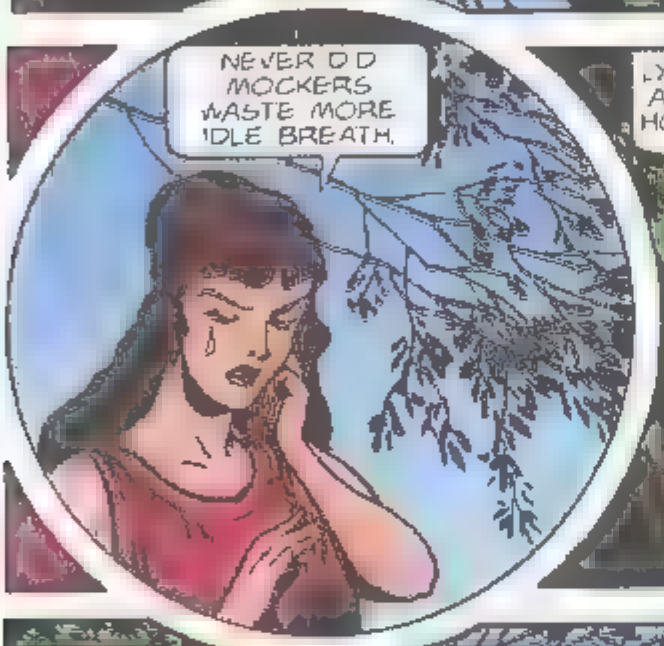
KING OBERON SAW THAT THE MISCHIEVOUS PUCK HAD MADE A MISTAKE AND HAD GIVEN THE MAGIC FLOWER JUICE TO THE WRONG MAN
GO FIND HELENA OF ATHENS, BRING HER HERE I'LL CHARM DEMETRIUS' EYES.
I GO, SWIFTER THAN ARROW FROM THE TARTAR'S BOW.

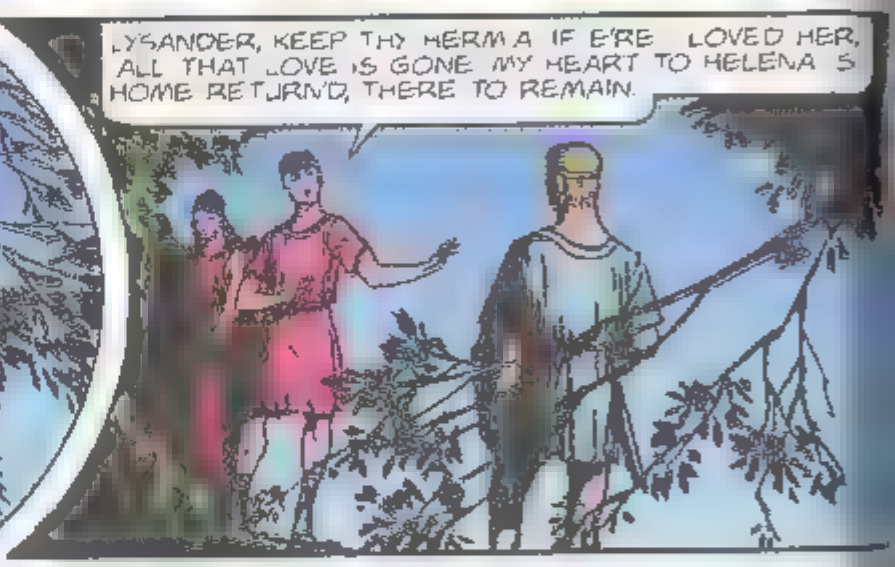
MEANWHILE, DEMETRIUS HAS FALLEN ASLEEP AND HERMIA HAS CONTINUED TO LOOK FOR LYSANDER.
FLOWER OF THIS PURPLE DYE, HIT WITH CUPID'S ARCHERY, SINK IN APPLE OF HIS EYE WHEN HIS LOVE HE DOTH ESPY LET HER SHINE AS GLORIOUSLY AS THE VENUS OF THE SKY


PUCK RETURNS
CAPTAIN OF OUR FAIRY BAND, HELENA IS HERE AT HAND, AND THE YOUTH M STOOK BY ME
LYSANDER IS STILL UNDER THE SPELL OF THE MAGIC FLOWER
YOU DO ADVANCE YOUR CUNNING MORE AND MORE
DEMETRIUS AWAKENS UNDER THE SPELL OF THE MAGIC FLOWER THE FIRST ONE HE SEES HELENA AND HE FALLS IN LOVE WITH HER NOW BOTH MEN ARE IN LOVE WITH HELENA
O, HELENA GODDESS, NYMPH, PERFECT, DIVINE TO WHAT, MY LOVE SHALL I COMPARE THIS PRINCESS OF PURE WHITE, THIS SEAL OF BLISS?

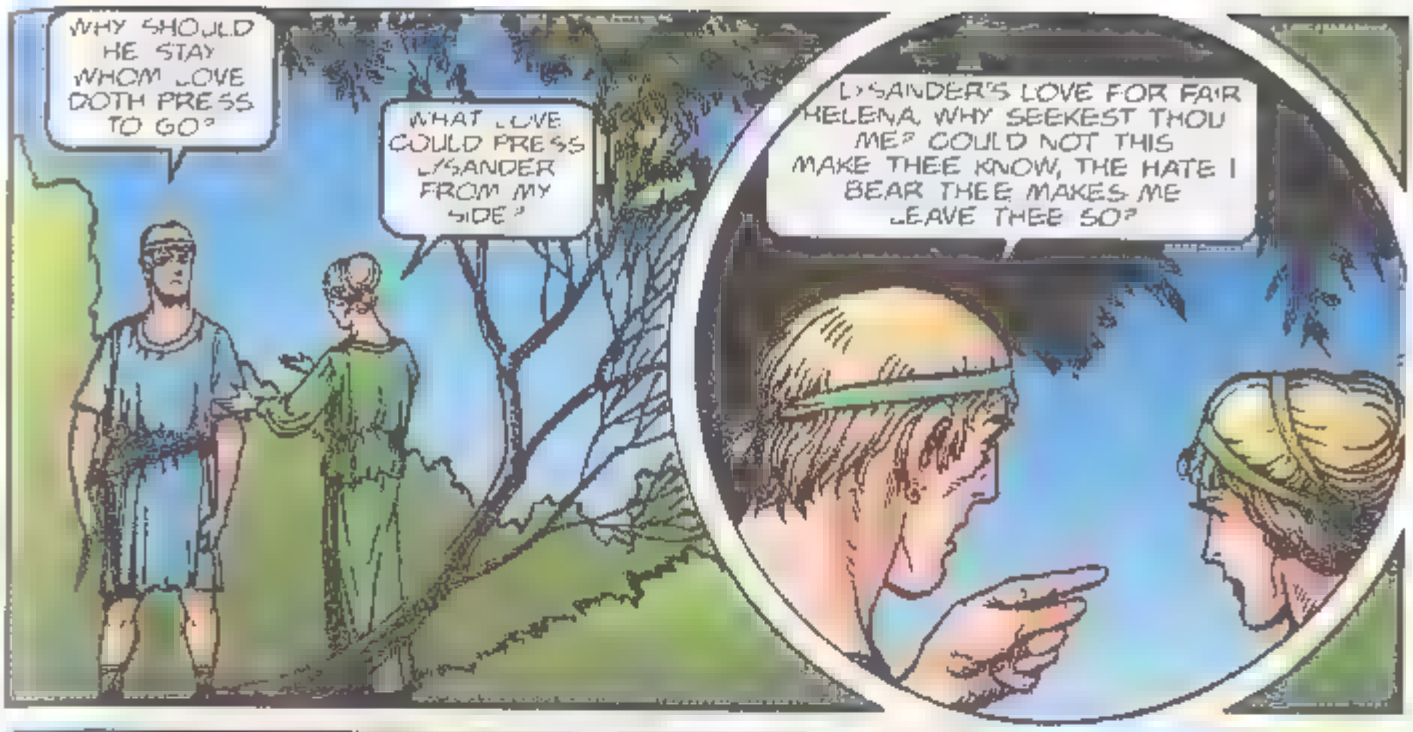
SEE YOU ALL ARE BENT TO SET AGAINST ME FOR YOUR MERRIMENT


YOU ARE UNKIND, DEMETRIUS, FOR YOU LOVE HERMIA AND HERE, WITH ALL GOOD WILL, WITH ALL MY HEART, IN HERMIA'S LOVE I YIELD, AND YOURS OF HELENA TO ME BEQUEATH WHOM I DO LOVE

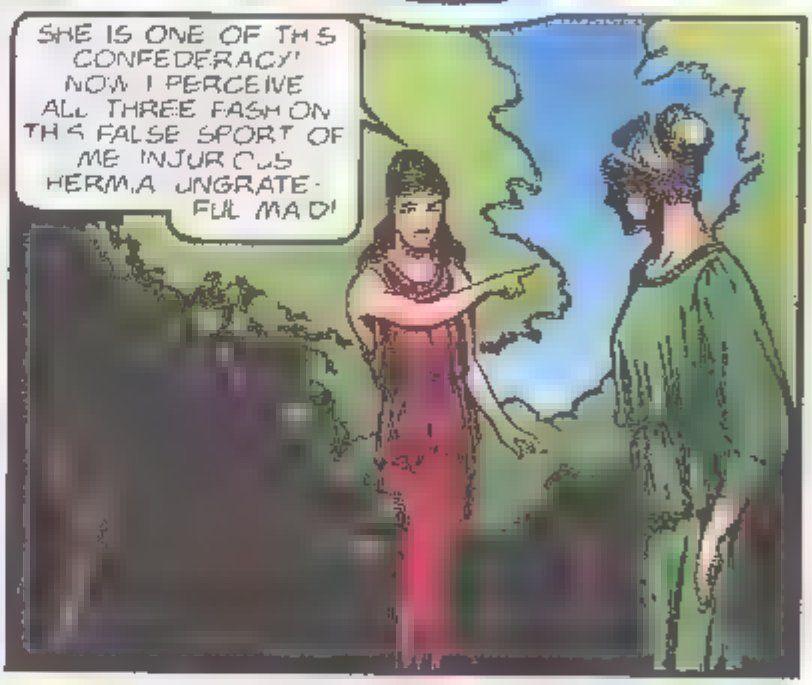

NEVER DID MOCKERS WASTE MORE IDLE BREATH.


LYSANDER, KEEP THY HERMIA IF E'ER I LOVED HER, ALL THAT LOVE IS GONE. MY HEART TO HELENA'S HOME RETURN'D, THERE TO REMAIN.

JUST THEN, HERMIA COMES UPON THEM.
LYSANDER, MINE EAR BROUGHT ME TO THY SOUND. BUT WHY UNKINDLY DIDST THOU LEAVE ME SO?


WHY SHOULD HE STAY WHOM LOVE DOTH PRESS TO GO?
WHAT LOVE COULD PRESS LYSANDER FROM MY SIDE?
LYSANDER'S LOVE FOR FAIR HELENA, WHY SEEKEST THOU ME? COULD NOT THIS MAKE THEE KNOW, THE HATE I BEAR THEE MAKES ME LEAVE THEE SO?

YOU SPEAK NOT AS YOU THINK IT CANNOT BE


SHE IS ONE OF THIS CONFEDERACY! NOW I PERCEIVE ALL THREE FASHION THIS FALSE SPORT OF ME INJURIOUS HERMIA UNGRATEFUL MAID!

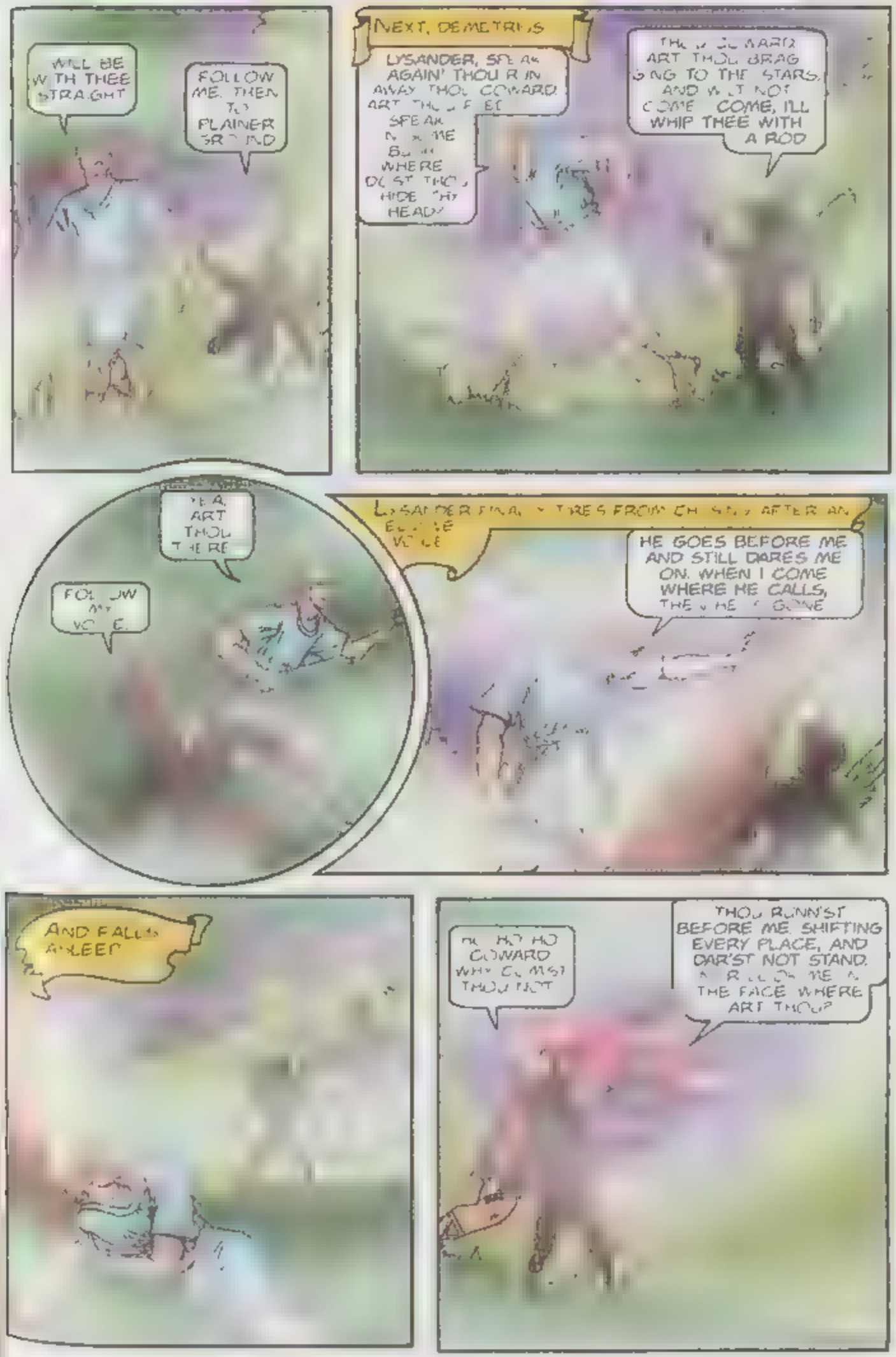
AM AMAZED AT YOUR WORDS. I SCORN YOU NOT, IT SEEMS THAT YOU SCORN ME
HAVE YOU NOT SENT LYSANDER TO FOLLOW ME, AND PRAISE MY EYES AND FACE?

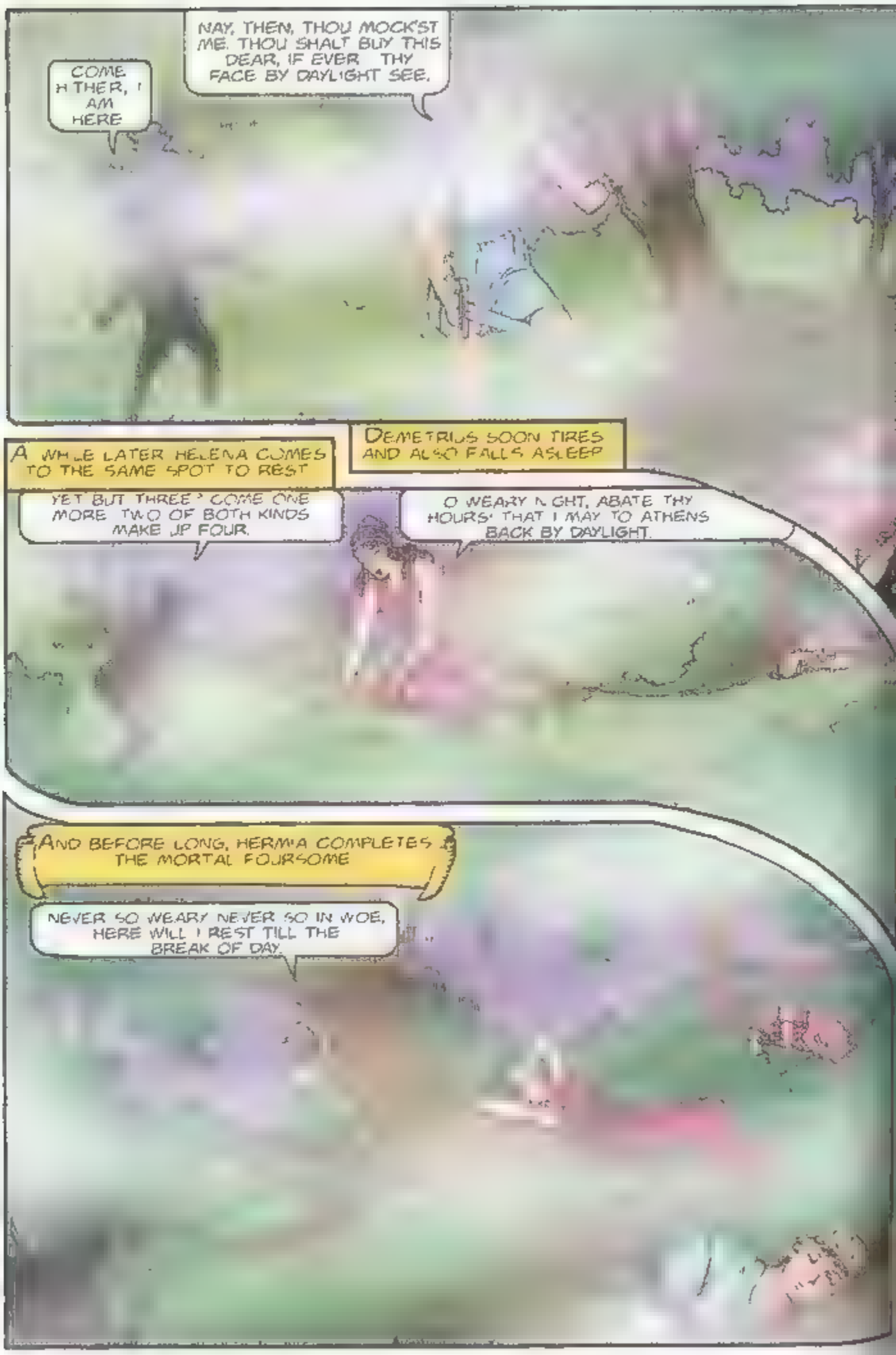
AND MADE YOUR OTHER LOVE DEMETRIUS, CALL ME GODDESS, NYMPH? WHEREFORE SPEAKS HE TO HER HE HATES? AND WHEREFORE DOTH LYSANDER DENY YOUR LOVE SO RICH WITHIN HIS SOUL, BUT BY YOUR CONSENT?

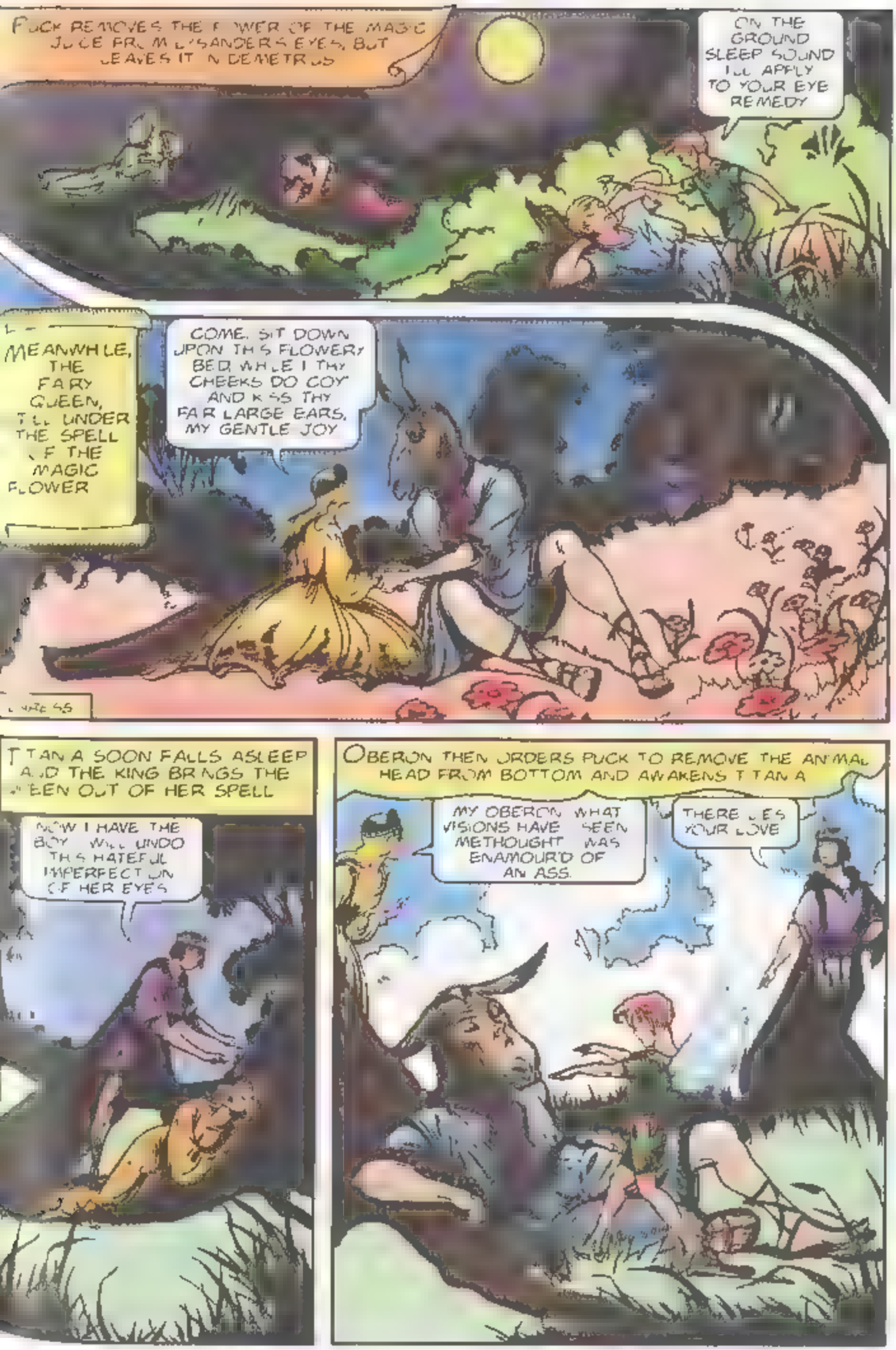
AND HERMA WHO HAD BEEN MELENAS BEST FRIEND NOW

THAT WAY GOES THE GAME WITH HER HEIGHT SHE HATH PREVAILD WITH HIM HOW LOW AM I THOU PAINTED MAY POLE NOT SO LOW BUT THAT MY NAILS CAN REACH INTO THINE EYES
LET HER NOT HURT ME LET HER NOT
BOTH MEN GO TO THE RESCUE
HE NOT AFRAID SHE SHALL NOT HARM THEE
WHEN SHE'S ANGRY SHE IS KEEN AND SHREWD SHE WAS A VIXEN WHEN SHE WENT TO SCHOOL AND THOUGH SHE BE BUT LITTLE SHE IS FIERCE
LITTLE AGAIN! THING BUT LOW AND LITTLE WHY WILL YOU SUFFER HER TO FLOUT ME THUS? LET ME COME TO HER!
AND NOW DEMETRIUS WARNS LYSANDER TO KEEP AWAY FROM HELENA
SPEAK NOT OF HELENA, TAKE NOT HER PART; NEVER SHOW LOVE TO HER.

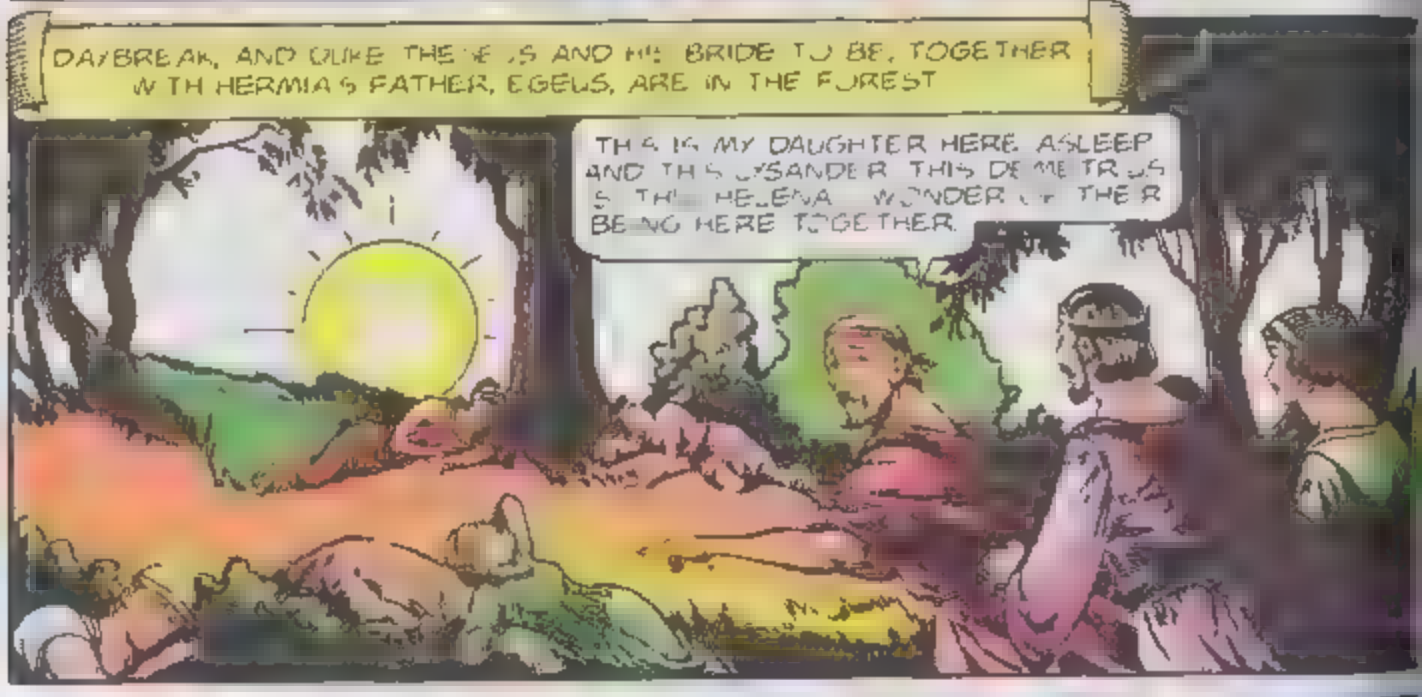
AND LYSANDER CHALLENGES DEMETRIUS TO A FIGHT FOR HELENA'S LOVE
NOW FOLLOW, IF THOU DAR'ST, TO TRY WHOSE RIGHT, OR THINE OR MINE, IS MOST IN HELENA.
FOLLOW, NAY I'LL GO WITH THEE CHEEK BY JOWL
YOUR HANDS THAN MINE ARE QUICKER FOR A FRAY, MY LEGS ARE LONGER, THOUGH, TO RUN AWAY
OBERON ORDERS PUCK TO COVER THE NIGHT WITH FOG SO THAT LYSANDER AND DEMETRIUS WILL BE UNABLE TO SEE EACH OTHER THEN, USING THEIR FIGHT THEN, USING THEIR VOICES AGAINST EACH OTHER PUCK IS TO CAUSE THEM TO CHASE HIM UNTIL THEY ARE EXHAUSTED AFTER THEY FALL ASLEEP PUCK IS TO REMOVE THE POWER OF THE MAGIC FLOWER FROM LYSANDER'S EYES WITH THE JUICE OF ANOTHER HERB
UP AND DOWN, UP AND DOWN, I WILL LEAD THEM UP AND DOWN I AM FEAR'D IN FIELD AND TOWN, GOBLIN, LEAD THEM UP AND DOWN HERE COMES ONE
WHERE ART THOU, PROUD DEMETRIUS? SPEAK THOU NOW.
HERE, VILLAIN; DRAWN AND READY WHERE ART THOU

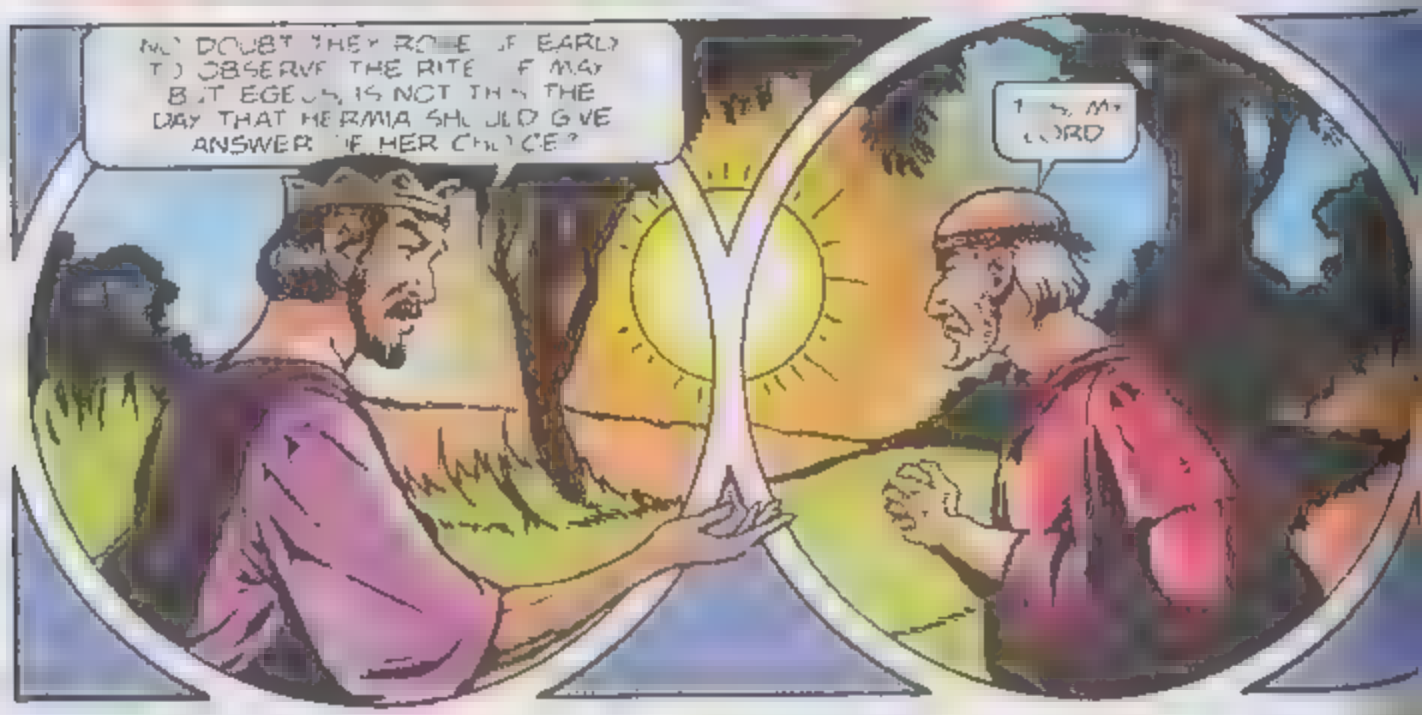

WILL BE WITH THEE STRAIGHT
FOLLOW ME. THEN TO PLAINER GROUND
NEXT, DEMETRIUS
LYSANDER, SPEAK AGAIN! THOU RUN AWAY THOU COWARD. ART THOU FIED SPEAK IN SOME BUSH WHERE DOST THOU HIDE THY HEAD?
THOU COWARD ART THOU BRAGGING TO THE STARS, AND WILT NOT COME. COME, I'LL WHIP THEE WITH A ROD
YEA, ART THOU THERE
FOLLOW MY VOICE.
LYSANDER FINALLY TIRES FROM CHASING AFTER AN ELSEWHERE VOICE
HE GOES BEFORE ME AND STILL DARES ME ON. WHEN I COME WHERE HE CALLS, THEN HE IS GONE
AND FALLS ASLEEP
HO HO HO COWARD WHY COMST THOU NOT
THOU RUNN'ST BEFORE ME. SHIFTING EVERY PLACE, AND DAR'ST NOT STAND. IN RILLOCK ME IN THE FACE WHERE ART THOU?


COME HITHER, I AM HERE
NAY, THEN, THOU MOCK'ST ME. THOU SHALT BUY THIS DEAR, IF EVER THY FACE BY DAYLIGHT SEE.
DEMETRIUS SOON TIRES AND ALSO FALLS ASLEEP
A WHILE LATER HELENA COMES TO THE SAME SPOT TO REST
YET BUT THREE? COME ONE MORE TWO OF BOTH KINDS MAKE UP FOUR.
O WEARY NIGHT, ABATE THY HOURS! THAT I MAY TO ATHENS BACK BY DAYLIGHT.
AND BEFORE LONG, HERMIA COMPLETES THE MORTAL FOURSOME
NEVER SO WEARY NEVER SO IN WOE, HERE WILL I REST TILL THE BREAK OF DAY.

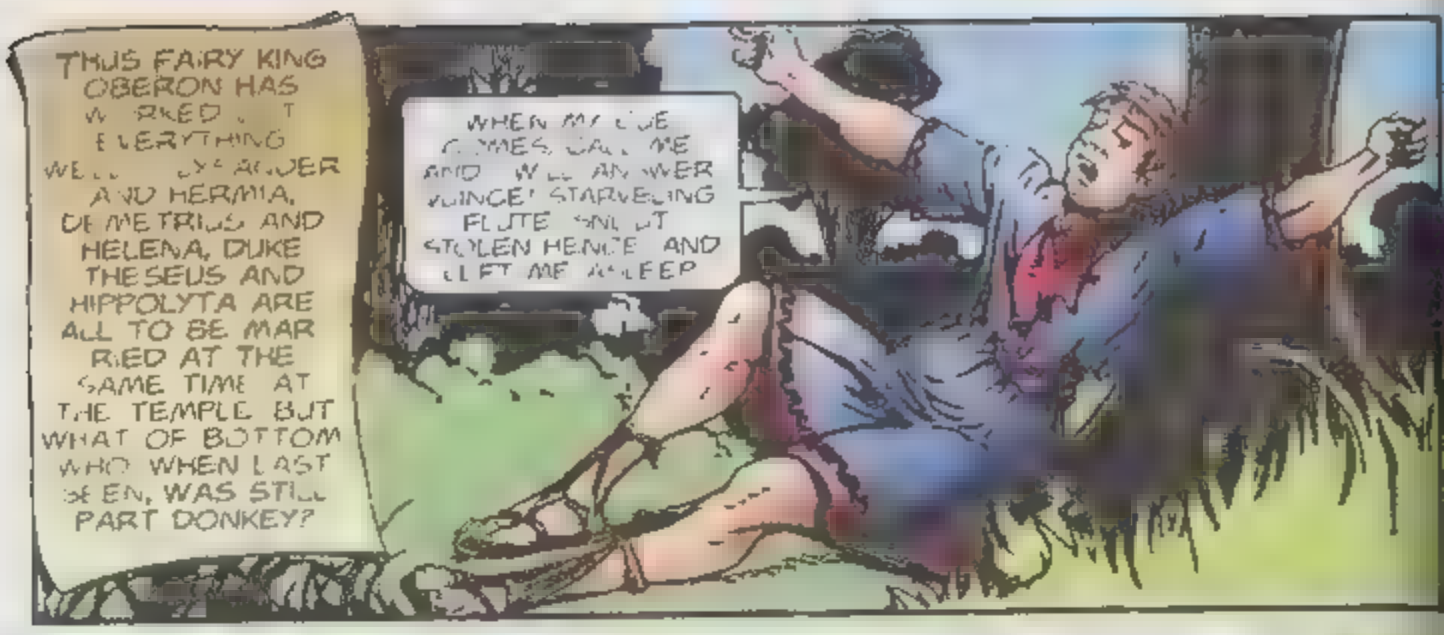

PUCK REMOVES THE FLOWER OF THE MAGIC JUICE FROM LYSANDER'S EYES, BUT LEAVES IT IN DEMETRIUS
ON THE GROUND SLEEP SOUND I'LL APPLY TO YOUR EYE REMEDY
MEANWHILE, THE FAIRY QUEEN, STILL UNDER THE SPELL OF THE MAGIC FLOWER
COME, SIT DOWN UPON THIS FLOWERY BED, WHILE I THY CHEEKS DO COY AND KISS THY FAIR LARGE EARS, MY GENTLE JOY
TITANIA SOON FALLS ASLEEP AND THE KING BRINGS THE QUEEN OUT OF HER SPELL
NOW I HAVE THE BOY, WILL UNDO THIS HATEFUL IMPERFECTION OF HER EYES
OBERON THEN ORDERS PUCK TO REMOVE THE ANIMAL HEAD FROM BOTTOM AND AWAKENS TITANIA
MY OBERON, WHAT VISIONS HAVE I SEEN METHOUGHT I WAS ENAMOUR'D OF AN ASS.
THERE LIES YOUR LOVE

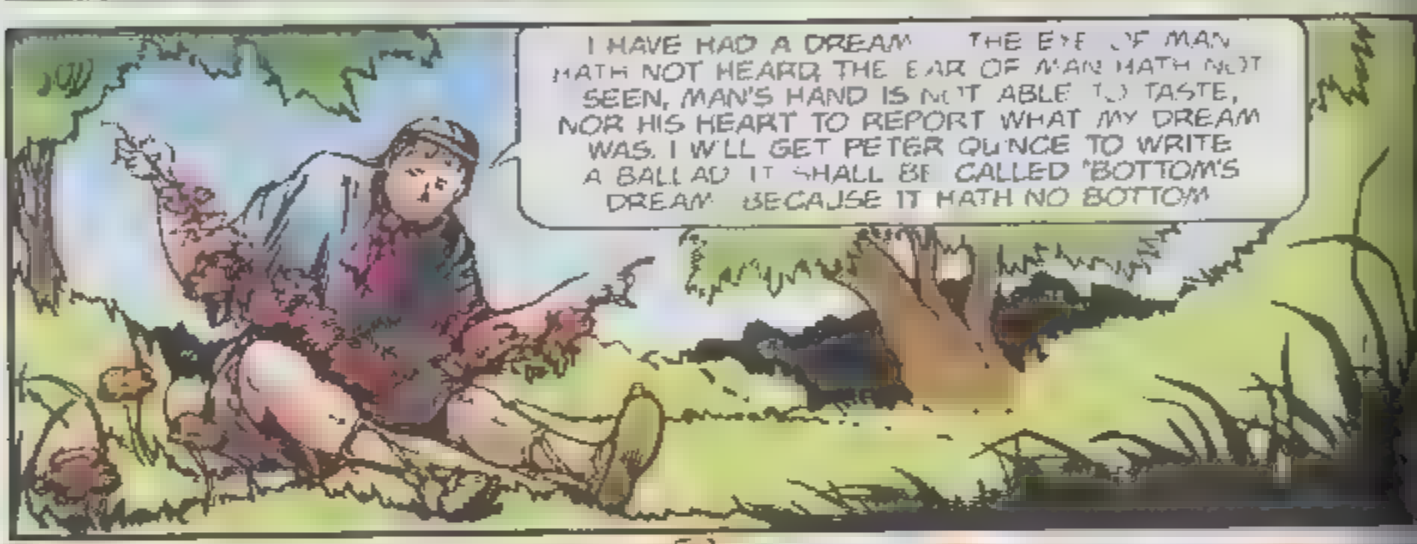
FAIRY KING, ATTEND, AND MARK, DO HEAR THE MORNING LARK
COME, MY LORD AND IN OUR FLIGHT TELL ME HOW IT CAME THIS NIGHT THAT SLEEPING HERE WAS FOUND WITH THESE MORTALS ON THE GROUND

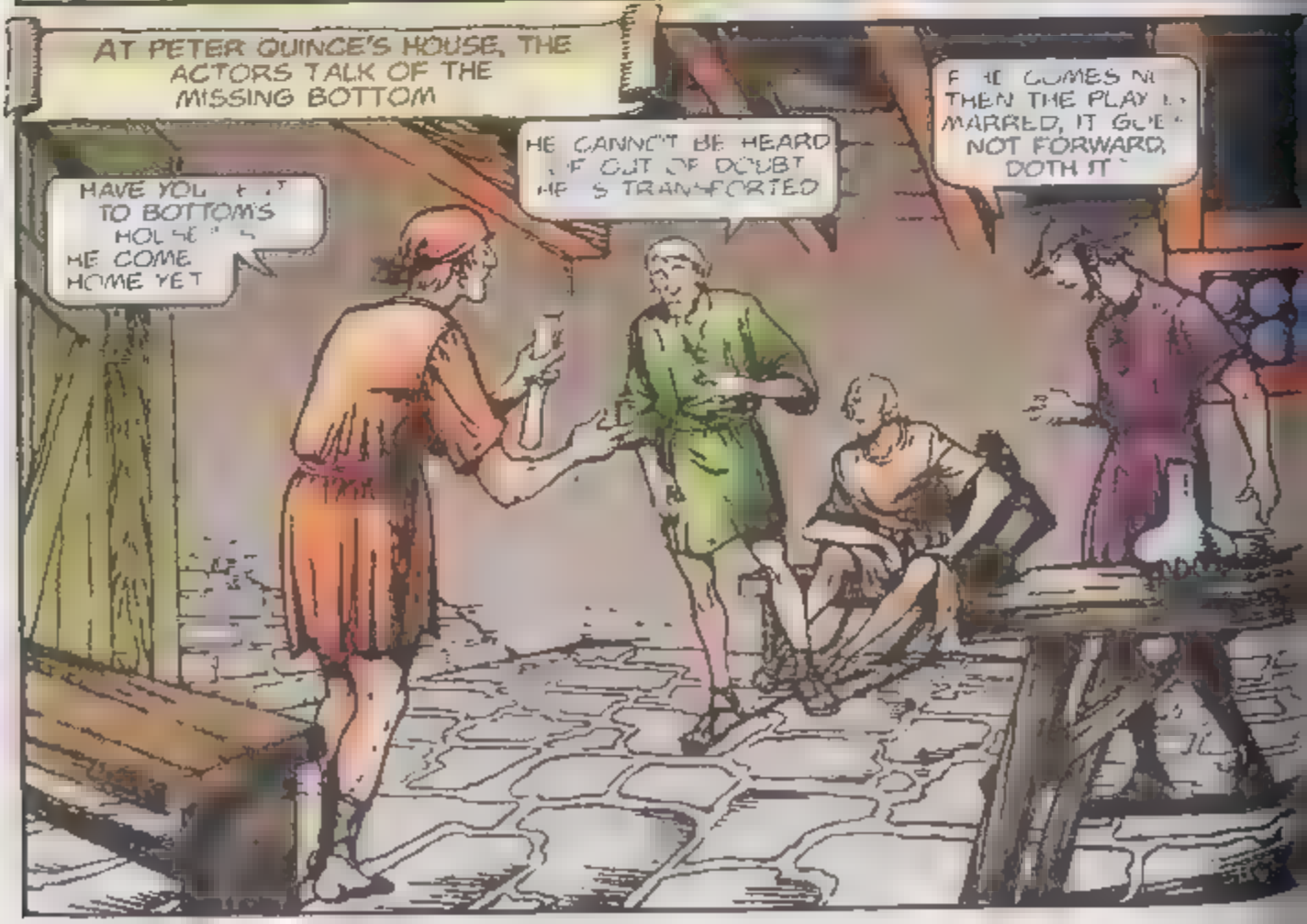

DAYBREAK, AND DUKE THESEUS AND HIS BRIDE TO BE, TOGETHER WITH HERMIA'S FATHER, EGEUS, ARE IN THE FOREST
THIS IS MY DAUGHTER HERE ASLEEP AND THIS LYSANDER. THIS DEMETRIUS IS THE HELENA WONDER AT THEIR BEING HERE TOGETHER.


NO DOUBT THEY ROSE UP EARLY TO OBSERVE THE RITE OF MAY BUT EGEUS, IS NOT THIS THE DAY THAT HERMIA SHOULD GIVE ANSWER OF HER CHOICE?
YES, MY LORD

THE TWO COUPLES SOON AWOKE
I PRAY YOU ALL, STAND UP KNOW YOU TWO ARE RIVAL ENEMIES HOW COME THIS GENTLE CONCORD?
I CAME WITH HERMIA OUR INTENT WAS TO BE GONE FROM ATHENS WHERE WE MIGHT, WITHOUT THE PERIL OF THE ATHENIAN LAW --
ENOUGH, ENOUGH, MY LORD. YOU HAVE ENOUGH BEG THE LAW, THE LAW UPON HIS HEAD.
DEMETRIUS, HOWEVER, WILL FOREVER BE DER THE MAGIC FLOWER'S SPELL
MY LORD, FAIR HELENA TOLD ME OF THEIR PURPOSE TO THIS WOOD; AND I IN FURY FOLLOWED THEM, HELENA FOLLOWING ME BUT I WOT NOT BY WHAT POWER MY LOVE FOR HERMIA MELTED AS THE SNOW
THE OBJECT OF MINE EYE ONLY HELENA HER, NOW DO LOVE, LONG FOR AND TO HER WILL FOREVER MORE BE TRUE


THUS FAIRY KING OBERON HAS WORKED OUT EVERYTHING WELL. LYSANDER AND HERMIA, DEMETRIUS AND HELENA, DUKE THESEUS AND HIPPOLYTA ARE ALL TO BE MARRIED AT THE SAME TIME AT THE TEMPLE. BUT WHAT OF BOTTOM WHO WHEN LAST SEEN, WAS STILL PART DONKEY?
WHEN MY CUE COMES, CALL ME AND I WILL ANSWER QUINCE! STARVELING FLUTE SNOUT STOLEN HENCE AND LEFT ME ASLEEP


I HAVE HAD A DREAM. THE EYE OF MAN HATH NOT HEARD, THE EAR OF MAN HATH NOT SEEN, MAN'S HAND IS NOT ABLE TO TASTE, NOR HIS HEART TO REPORT WHAT MY DREAM WAS. I WILL GET PETER QUINCE TO WRITE A BALLAD. IT SHALL BE CALLED 'BOTTOM'S DREAM' BECAUSE IT HATH NO BOTTOM


AT PETER QUINCE'S HOUSE, THE ACTORS TALK OF THE MISSING BOTTOM
HAVE YOU SENT TO BOTTOM'S HOUSE? IS HE COME HOME YET
HE CANNOT BE HEARD OF. OUT OF DOUBT HE IS TRANSPORTED
IF HE COMES NOT THEN THE PLAY IS MARRED. IT GOES NOT FORWARD, DOTH IT?

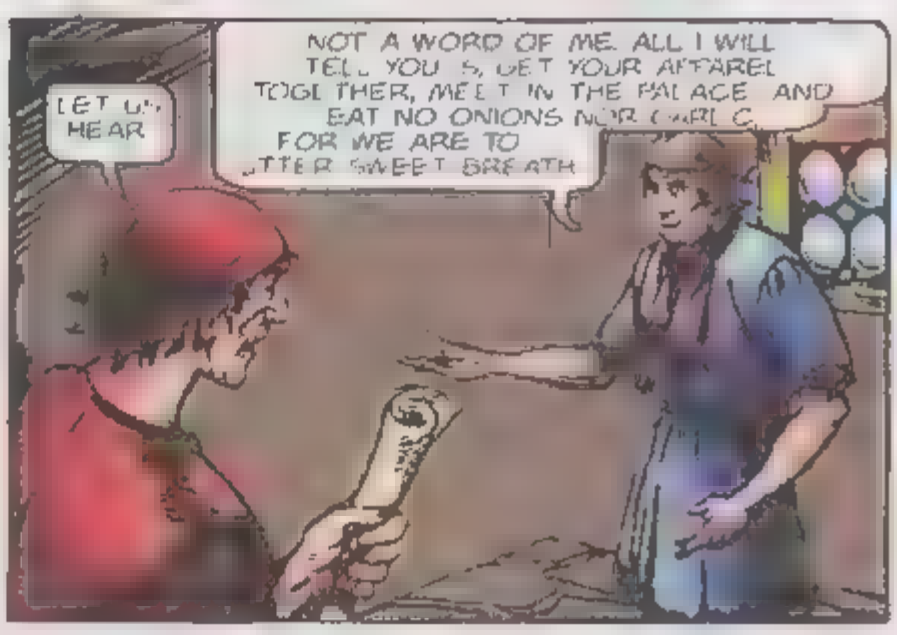
IT IS NOT POSSIBLE
OU HAVE NOT A MAN
N ALL ATHENS
ABLE TO
DISCHARGE
RAMUS BUT HE
NO, HE HATH
SIMPLY THE
BEST WIT
OF ANY
HANDICRAFT
MAN IN
ATHENS

MASTERS THE DUKE IS
FROM THE TEMPLE AND THERE ARE
TWO MORE LORDS AND LADIES
MARRIED F OUR SPORT HAD
GONE FORWARD WE HAD ALL BEEN
MADE MEN

THUS HATH BOTTOM
LOST SIXPENCE A DAY
DURING HIS LIFE. AN'
THE DUKE HAD NOT GIVEN
HIM SIXPENCE A DAY
FOR PLAYING PYRAMUS,
I'LL BE HANGED

WHERE
ARE
THESE
HEARTS

MASTERS, I AM TO
DISCOURSE WONDERS,
BUT ASK ME NOT WHAT,
FOR IF I TELL YOU, I
AM NO TRUE ATHENIAN


LET US
HEAR
NOT A WORD OF ME. ALL I WILL
TELL YOU IS, GET YOUR APPAREL
TOGETHER, MEET IN THE PALACE AND
EAT NO ONIONS NOR GARLIC,
FOR WE ARE TO
UTTER SWEET BREATH

DUKE THESEUS INVITES THE NEWLY MARRIED COUPLES TO SPEND THE EVENING AT HIS PALACE

HERE COME THE LOVERS, FULL OF JOY AND MIRTH.

PHILOSTRATE, MASTER OF THE REVELS!

HERE, MIGHTY THESEUS

SAY, WHAT HAVE YOU FOR THIS EVENING? WHAT MASQUE? WHAT MUSIC?

HERE IS A BRIEF: HOW MANY, MAKE CHOICE

"THE BATTLE OF THE CENTAURS," "THE RIOT OF THE TIPSY BACCHANALS," "THE THRICE THREE MUSES MOURNING" . .

"A TEDIOUS BRIEF SCENE OF YOUNG PYRAMUS, VERY TRAGICAL MIRTH." WHAT ARE THEY THAT PLAY IT?

HARD HANDED MEN THAT WORK IN ATHENS HERE

THE DUKE CHOOSES BOTTOM'S PLAY AND THE PERFORMANCE STARTS WITH THE PROLOGUE

IF WE OFFEND, IT IS WITH OUR GOOD WILL THAT YOU SHOULD THINK WE COME NOT TO OFFEND. THE ACTORS ARE AT HAND, AND BY THEIR SHOW, YOU SHALL KNOW ALL THAT YOU ARE LIKE TO KNOW.
GENTLES, PERCHANCE YOU WONDER AT THIS SHOW; BUT WONDER ON TILL TRUTH MAKE ALL THINGS PLAIN.
"THIS MAN IS PYRAMUS, IF YOU WOULD KNOW . . ."
"THIS BEAUTEOUS LADY THISBY IS CERTAIN . . ."
"THIS MAN DOTH PRESENT WALL . . ."
"THIS GRISLEY BEAST, BY NAME LION . . ."

THE TRUSTY THISBY, COMING FIRST BY NIGHT, DID SCARE AWAY, OR RATHER DID AFFRIGHT: AND AS SHE FLED, HER MANTLE SHE DID FALL; WHICH LION, VILE WITH BLOODY MOUTH DID STAIN. ANON COMES PYRAMUS; SWEET YOUTH AND TALL, AND FINDS HIS TRUSTY THISBY'S MANTLE SLAIN; WHEREAT WITH BLADE, WITH BLOODY BLAMEFUL BLADE HE BRAVELY BROACH'D HIS BOILING BLOODY BREAST AND THISBY, TARRYING IN MULBERRY SHADE, HIS DAGGER DREW OUT, AND ALSO DIED. NOW ON WITH PLAY.
'STABBED
O NIGHT! I FEAR MY THISBY'S PROMISE IS FORGOT. AND THOU, O WALL, WHICH STANDS BETWEEN HER FATHER'S GROUND AND MINE, SHOW ME THY CHINK.
THANKS, COURTEOUS WALL. I SEE A VOICE; NOW WILL I TO THE CHINK, TO SPY MY THISBY'S FACE!
MY LOVE, THOU ART MY LOVE, I THINK.
WILT THOU AT NINNY'S TOMB MEET ME STRAIGHTWAY?
'TIDE LIFE, 'TIDE DEATH, I COME WITHOUT DELAY.

KNOW THAT I, ONE SNUG THE JOINER, AM A LION.
THIS LANTERN DOTH THE HORNED MOON PRESENT.

THIS IS OLD NINNY'S TOMB. WHERE IS MY LOVE?
ROAR.

O DAINTY DUCK! O DEAR! THY MANTLE GOOD, WHAT! STAINED WITH BLOOD?

SINCE LION VILE HATH DEFLOWERED MY DEAR, I DIE THUS; NOW I AM DEAD.

COME, BLADE, MY BREAST IMBRUE,* AND FAREWELL, FRIENDS; THUS THISBY ENDS. ADIEU, ADIEU, ADIEU.
*STAIN WITH BLOOD
THUS ENDS THE EVENING'S ENTERTAINMENT. THE CLOCK STRIKES MIDNIGHT. NOBLES, PLAYERS, ALL RETIRE SAVE THE FAIRIES WHO HAVE COME TO BLESS THE TRIPLE MARRIAGE.
IF WE SHADOWS HAVE OFFENDED, THINK BUT THIS, AND ALL IS MENDED, THAT YOU HAVE BUT SLUMBER'D HERE WHILE THESE VISIONS DID APPEAR, AND THIS WEAK AND IDLE THEME, NO MORE YIELDING BUT A DREAM, GENTLES, DO NOT REPREHEND. IF YOU PARDON, WE WILL MEND. AND, AS I AM AN HONEST PUCK, IF WE HAVE UNEARNED LUCK NOW TO 'SCAPE THE SERPENT'S TONGUE, WE WILL MAKE AMENDS ERE LONG; ELSE THE PUCK A LIAR CALL. SO, GOOD NIGHT UNTO YOU ALL. GIVE ME YOUR HANDS, IF WE BE FRIENDS, AND ROBIN SHALL RESTORE AMENDS.
THE END